

ShireHike Risk Assessment

Name of Section or Activity	Scouts Hereford and Worcester Hillwalking – ShireHike 2024	Date of risk assessment	1 st March 2024	Name of who undertook this risk assessment	Edd Hogan 07500 639308	COVID-19 readiness level transition	Not Applicable
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Sections: Squirrels // Beavers // Cubs // Scouts // Explorers // Network

Hazard Identified? / Risks from it?	Who is at risk?	How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
<i>Hazard – something that may cause harm or damage. Risk – the chance of it happening.</i>	Young people, Leaders, Visitors?	Controls – Ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk from it. <i>For example - you might use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way the activity is carried out.</i>	Keep checking throughout the activity in case you need to change it...or even stop it! This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.
Hazard - Group sizes Risk - Risk of losing young people Risk of problems in managing young people	Young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking groups to be between 4 and 8 people. By exception, groups can be up to 10. Record which attendees are in each walking group – online booking and onsite verification of numbers on the day Younger sections will have more adults to supervise as per POR Walking in groups is compulsory – no one to be left behind (BRIEFING) Groups to remain separated throughout – No merging of groups Groups to include a first aider (first response) PLUS first aid support from Event Base 	
Hazard - Groups becoming more than 8 Risk - Risk of losing Scouts	Young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If more than one group is formed the parties must separate and leave a clear time and distance interval between them – so that they do not become mixed. 	
Hazard - Cars moving around village hall car park Risk – Risk of people being hit by vehicle	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Car park marshals and drop off marshals will be visible and provide clear instructions to drivers. Car park marshals brief in advance to ensure smooth flow of traffic and safe depositing of young people. Recommendation to group leaders to distribute high-viz in advance and for young people to arrive wearing it to aid visibility between car and village hall. Operation of a one-way system around the Village Hall car park. Drop off will be on the turning space in the car park (like Colwall Primary School uses for 'kiss and drop'). Supervised young people exiting vehicles and ushered into the village hall. Drivers will be asked to drive slowly and with extra care as they enter Mill Lane. There will be a marshal on the road. Whole day HQ volunteers will park in the school car park (separate area with barrier) 	
Hazard - Accidents, Trips and Falls Risk - Risk of injury.	All but mainly Scouts/Explorers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For each walk, consider the risk of injury and accident and consciously reduce the risk level. This may mean simplifying the route or reducing the length of the walk. 	

Additional information can be found in the [Safety Checklist for Leaders](#) and other information at scouts.org.uk/safety

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<p>We don't want to add to the burden of the NHS, Mountain Rescue and the Air Ambulance so risk of accidents and injury needs to be minimised</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the proposed walk is appropriate for the ability or group members and the kit they have with them • Close supervision at all times from adult leader or similar 	
<p>Hazard – Injuries (major / minor) Risk - Risk of Trips and falls, bites and stings</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>FIRST AID / RESPONDER PROVISION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each walking group to include a first aider or notify event base that there isn't a first aider in the group so that provision can be made at base • Each group to carry a first aid kit plus extra blister plasters etc • Each group to carry a group shelter (County will provide this) • Encourage everyone to wear long trousers if concerns over foliage or ticks. • First aid provision at checkpoints – marshals will be reminded to have first aid kits 	
<p>Hazard - Poor weather conditions. Risk - Risk of chills, hypothermia, sun stroke, heat exhaustion, unhappy Scouts</p>	<p>All</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelters will be provided at base to keep walkers dry for the registration period and until they set off. Shelters to be taken by walk leaders. These will not cater for everyone and we will prioritise the youngest people. • Check weather forecast in advance • Share weather notifications through the walk briefings (BRIEFING) • Refer to CIP for poor weather leading to event being cancelled once started. • Make adjustments to ensure walk is enjoyable for all those taking part i.e. cut it short if the weather is poor. • Ensure group members have appropriate kit e.g. waterproofs, warm layers, sun tan cream 	<p>Weather has been very wet lately. Extra reminders to bring dry socks, use dry bags in rucksacks (as best practice but not compulsory)</p>
<p>Hazard - Checkpoint bases Risk - Risk of missing walking groups</p>	<p>Walkers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marshals need to be in place in good time – marshal briefing to be held a few days in advance • Marshals will have mobile phones and access to the marshal Whatsapp group to ease comms on the day. • Marshals will have a list of emergency numbers to call. • Marshals will be obvious / visible at checkpoints (wearing a knecker is a minimum expectation) • Marshals will have instructions on how to mark cards / notify of retirees 	
<p>Hazard - Becoming lost Risk - Risk of anxiety, tiredness, cold and late arrival</p>	<p>Walkers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group leader to ensure group stay together throughout • Each group to have at least two maps • Use of checkpoints is mandatory • Sticking to marked paths • Leaders to carry a phone and charger. • Use an app like WhatsApp to provide updates on location. 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group leaders to have app on phone to show exact location e.g. OS Maps 	
Hazard - Poor kit Risk Leading to an uncomfortable day	Walkers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendees to be provided with comprehensive kit list before the trip Kit checks to take place before walk If poor weather forecast, reduce the length and difficulty of the walk Leaders to bring spare kit with them All kit in rucksacks to be in plastic or dry bags Group to carry first aid kit including blister plasters 	
Hazard - Dark nights Risk - Risk of getting lost Risk of not being able to see	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure routes chosen can be completed easily within daylight time or with using headtorches High viz to be worn from twilight when walking on roads / lanes. RECOMMENDATION for high viz to be distributed in advance and worn on arrival Route plan to be carried out before each hike 	
Hazard - Roads Risk - Risk of injury	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routes include road crossings. High viz will be worn (provided by each group taking part) in order to highlight the nature of the group being in an organised group. Leaders will supervise crossing roads with a leader at the front and back of each group at this point. Marshals to be positioned on all significant A and B road crossings (See marshal position plan) 	
Hazard – Emergency contact Risk – need to get in touch with parents	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have a home contact for the day via pre-populated and submitted forms. Base to have a list of all attendees and a contact name / number Home contact to be advised what walks are being done by each group Use county emergency number in handbook – 0300 772 7734 	
Additional needs	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young people with additional needs are welcome. Appropriate supervision will be the responsibility of the Group to which the young person belongs. Base HQ will be advised for information and so that support can be summonsed if necessary. Routes can be adjusted to accommodate the additional needs of participants. Groups should be encouraged to make the organising team aware of these needs prior to the event. 	

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HQ Template Published June 2020