



**Assessment Ref:**  
**Hug a tree – guidance only**

**Risk assessment - guidance only**

**Please note: This risk assessment is for guidance only. Teachers are advised to carry out their own risk assessments before any activity.**

|  |                              |                                  |                               |                 |                 |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Location/Dept</b>                           | Parks Team                   | <b>Date Assessment Completed</b> | 30/09/2021                    | <b>Assessor</b> | Ruth Piddington |
| <b>Task or Activity Assessed</b>               | Hug a tree                   |                                  |                               |                 |                 |
| <b>Who Is At Risk</b><br>(tick as appropriate) | <b>Employee</b>              |                                  | <b>Other (please specify)</b> |                 |                 |
|  | <b>Volunteer</b>             |                                  |                               |                 |                 |
|  | <b>Members Of The Public</b> | Y                                |                               |                 |                 |
|  | <b>Visitors</b>              | Y                                |                               |                 |                 |
|  | <b>Contractors</b>           |                                  |                               |                 |                 |

| Hazards Identified  | Outcome & Injury  | Likelihood | Severity | Risk Rating |
|---|---|------------|----------|-------------|
| Uneven ground   | Slips, trips and falls – bruising, strains, sprains, head injuries            | 2          | 1        | Tolerable   |
| Low branches  | Cuts, scratches, pokes in eye   | 2          | 1        | Tolerable   |
| Weather   | Exposure, falling objects in high winds                                       | 1          | 2        | Tolerable   |
| Dogs  | Bites   | 2          | 1        | Tolerable   |
| Infections  | Scratches/ Tetanus/ Toxicara (dog faeces)/<br>Leptospirosis (water)/ Covid 19 | 2          | 3        | Substantial |
| Lost children   | Abduction, injury   | 1          | 2        | Tolerable   |
| Water hazards   | Drowning  | 1          | 2        | Tolerable   |
| Wildlife  | Bites, stings, cuts, scratches  | 2          | 1        | Tolerable   |
| Blindfolds  | Trips, slips and falls; bumps to head; frightened learners                    | 1          | 2        | Tolerable   |
| Examine each of the hazards involved in the task and note down any preventative or safety measures you already have in place. |   |            |          |             |

| Control Measures Already In Place to Address Above Hazards  | Likelihood | Severity | Risk Rating |
|---|------------|----------|-------------|
| <b>Uneven ground</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warn everyone of uneven ground and to be observant of where they are walking.</li> <li>When leading a blind-folded person, everyone to be aware that they need are the eyes for that person and guide them carefully so they don't slip, trip or fall.</li> <li>Advise walking around site (not running).</li> <li>Teachers to check appropriate footwear. ('School visit useful information' document advises appropriate footwear.)</li> <li>Teachers to ensure adequate first aid provisions.</li> </ul> | 2          | 1        | Tolerable   |
| <b>Low branches</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warn everyone that there may be low branches so to be careful of their eyes.</li> <li>Teachers to ensure adequate first aid provisions.</li> </ul>   | 2          | 1        | Tolerable   |

|  |   |   |             |
|--|---|---|-------------|
| <p><b>Weather</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher to assess weather conditions and postpone session if dangerous weather conditions e.g. high winds</li> <li>• 'School visit useful information' document advises appropriate clothing.</li> <li>• Teachers to ensure adequate first aid provisions.</li> </ul>   | 1 | 2 | Tolerable   |
| <p><b>Dogs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advise everyone to stand still and fold arms if dog off lead come towards them.</li> <li>• Teachers to ensure adequate first aid provisions.</li> </ul>  | 2 | 1 | Tolerable   |
| <p><b>Infections</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warn everyone not to touch any litter or dog faeces.</li> <li>• Ensure everyone washes hands before eating/ drinking.</li> <li>• Public toilets open from 8am.</li> <li>• Session information advises covering cuts/ grazes.</li> <li>• Teachers to follow current Covid guidelines at time of visit.</li> </ul>                       | 2 | 3 | Substantial |
| <p><b>Lost children</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers to ensure appropriate supervision and safety of learners.</li> <li>• Teachers to ensure adequate first aid provisions.</li> <li>• In case of emergency, dial 999 yourself stating Beacon Park Bunker's Hill entrance WS13 6RA – yellow barrier. Then, inform rangers on 01543 308867 who will open the barrier.</li> </ul> | 1 | 2 | Tolerable   |
| <p><b>Water hazards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers to ensure appropriate supervision and safety of learners.</li> <li>• Warn everyone of open water.</li> </ul>   | 1 | 2 | Tolerable   |

|  |   |   |           |
|--|---|---|-----------|
| <b>Wildlife</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warn children stinging nettles and brambles present.</li> <li>Teachers to ensure adequate first aid provisions.</li> </ul>  | 2 | 1 | Tolerable |
| <b>Blindfolds</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If learners are frightened by blindfolds, they could close their eyes instead.</li> <li>When leading a blind-folded person, everyone to be aware that they are the eyes for that person and guide them carefully so they don't slip, trip or fall.</li> <li>Make the blindfolded person stretch out their arms in front of them just before they reach the tree to try and avoid bumped heads.</li> </ul> |   |   |           |

| Further Action Needed to Decrease Risks | Person Responsible | Date Required | Date Implemented | Likelihood | Severity | Risk Rating |
|---|--------------------|---------------|------------------|------------|----------|-------------|
|   |                    |               |                  |            |          |             |
|   |                    |               |                  |            |          |             |

|             |                     |                           |              |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Date</b> | <b>30 Sept 2021</b> | <b>Assessor Signature</b> | R Piddington |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------|

**Reviews**

**(If there are no changes then the assessment should just be signed. However if anything changes a new assessment must be completed)**

|   |  |                           |  |
|---|--|---------------------------|--|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reassessment Date</b> |  | <b>Assessor Signature</b> |  |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reassessment Date</b> |  | <b>Assessor Signature</b> |  |