

Lyme Regis Museum School Visit and Fossil Walks Risk Assessment

HAZARD	LIKELIHOOD	SEVERITY	RISK	Who is affected and how	Mitigating Actions and Procedures to minimise Risk
Walking to and from Museum along narrow paths alongside busy road	2	5	MEDIUM	School pupils could fall into or wander into the road	Education officer escorts groups via safe routes avoiding main roads, heavy traffic and narrow paths
Sockets and electrical cables	1	5	LOW	Pupils could put fingers in sockets or trip over any cables	The Education Officer will arrange the seating in the room so that no pupils are sat near a socket. All Museum staff are vigilant about ensuring no cables are left around the museum without being secured.
Leaning or sitting on glass in drawers	2	3	LOW	Pupils could sit or lean on any of the drawers that are pulled open to show exhibits and break the glass that could result in cuts	Pupils are told not to touch, lean on or sit on the glass. Education Officer and school staff are to supervise the pupils
Slips, trips and falls in the museum	1	2	LOW	Pupils could slip or fall	Museum staff ensure that there are no hazards left around the museum. Signs are used in the event of any spillages or wet patches in the museum. Galleries are inspected regularly to ensure there are no hazards
Slips, trips or falls on the main staircases	2	3	LOW	Pupils could trip and fall on the stairs	Pupils are told how to use the stairs carefully by not running, overtaking, keeping to the left and using handrails
Walking to the beach from the museum there are steep winding steps	2	3	LOW	School pupils could fall, trip or fall down the steps.	Pupils are told to walk carefully in single file down that steps keeping to the left hand side, no overtaking and

					to hold the railing. School staff will supervise.
Walking to the beach there are railings with big gaps that have a long drop down to the beach.	2	5	MEDIUM	Pupils could hang over railings and possibly fall	Pupils are told to keep to the left hand side of path walking to the beach avoiding close proximity to the railings. School staff will supervise.
Uneven ground on beach, slippery mud, weed covered rocks, slippery wave cut platforms, rocks and boulders that move underfoot.	4	5	HIGH	Walk pupils could trip, fall or slip on uneven and slippery surfaces on the beach.	Education officers have expert local knowledge of the beach and will advise walk pupils of the dangers before the walk starts. People made aware at time of booking that they must wear suitable footwear and come dressed for the weather conditions on the day. They will also be made aware that the terrain is uneven, slippery, muddy with weed and is unsuitable for those with mobility issues. It is also unsuitable for children's buggies or wheelchairs. At the start of the walk the Education officer will include a safety briefing telling pupils what to expect and how to stay safe. Education officers will remind pupils as needed. Education officers will actively monitor the situation during the walk and take any necessary steps to keep pupils safe.
Dogs on the beach	1	2	LOW	Dogs will sometimes approach pupils on the beach or the pupils will call the dog over. Dogs could be playful and jump up or bite the pupils	Pupils are instructed by the Education Officer not to approach or call over and to avoid any dogs on the beach
Bad Weather	3	3	MEDIUM	Conditions could be cold and visibility poor at times in heavy rain. Walk pupils may not be aware that they	Education officers have expert knowledge of local weather conditions and will not take walks out if the

				need adequate footwear and clothing for the walk. Conditions may also be very hot and sunny – adequate clothing to prevent sunburn and heat exhaustion may need to be worn along with sufficient water may need to be taken by pupils. Lightning storms are specific cases that may have possible fatal consequences.	weather conditions are dangerous. Walks do go ahead in rain. If weather conditions change adversely during a walk, Education officers will offer pupils the opportunity to return early. If the Education officer considers a person to be inadequately dressed for the weather conditions they will ask the person to withdraw from the walk. If Lightning storms develop before or during a walk then the walk is immediately cancelled and all pupils will return to the safety of the museum.
Incoming Tide	1	5	LOW	Walk pupils could get cut off by the incoming tide.	Walks are timed to take place on a falling tide. Walk pupils are advised in the safety briefing at the start of the walk of the risks of being caught by the incoming tide.
Walk pupils unfit to take part	2	4	LOW	Walk pupils, including elderly and very young children may find the uneven surface on the beach and the length of the walk is challenging or difficult	People are advised at time of booking of the length of the walk and advised of the conditions on the beach before the start of the walk. Groups must have a ratio of adults to children deemed appropriate by the Education officer. If the Education officer considers a person to be unfit for the walk they will ask them to withdraw from the walk
Landslip or rock fall before the walk	2	2	LOW	The area could become unsafe if there is a landslip or rock fall prior to a walk	Education officers will visually assess the area when reaching the end of the sea wall before taking a walk out onto the beach and the Education officers

					will actively monitor the situation during the walk. Alternative routes will be selected if appropriate. The walk will be cancelled if there are any concerns about the safety of the area.
Landslip or Rock fall during the walk.	2	5	MEDIUM	Material from the cliff could fall on to the beach during a walk.	The Education officers do not take walk pupils near the cliff face. Pupils are warned not to go near the landslips and mudslips when booking and in the initial safety briefing. Education officers observe the pupils and remind them if they stray near the mudflows and landslips.
Existing Landslips & Mudflows	4	3	MEDIUM	Pupils could become stuck in existing mudflows and landslips	The Education officers do not take walk pupils near the cliff face, mudflows and landslips. Pupils are warned not to go near the landslips and mudslips when booking and in the initial safety briefing. Education officers observe the pupils and remind them if they stray near the mudflows and landslips.
Injury from beach debris e.g. sharp metal and glass.	3	3	MEDIUM	Walk pupils may pick up beach debris	The Education officers will advise walk pupils at the start of the walk about the risks of picking up beach debris such as glass and metal fragments. Education officers carry simple first aid kits and have first aid training.
Injury from hammers or chisels.	1	4	LOW	Walk pupils are not permitted to use hammers or chisels on the walk. Education officers will use tools only when appropriate	Hammers and Chisels are sometimes used to extract fossils. Walk pupils are advised at the time of booking not to bring hammers or chisels. Other beach users may be using them and walk

					pupils are informed to keep away. The Education officers will include in their safety briefing information about safe use of hammers and chisels. Education officers will wear safety goggles and gloves. The Education officers will use tools only when appropriate and demonstrate how to hammer safely.
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Key person responsible for School Visits: Education Officer currently Chris Andrew

Location of Walk: Foreshore below Church Cliffs, Spittles & Black Ven, East Of Lyme Regis

LIKELIHOOD – Graded from 1 (low) to 5 (high)

SEVERITY – Graded from 1 (minor) to 5 (serious)

RISK – Likelihood X Severity = Risk (1-8 Low, 9-17 Medium, 18-25 High)

RISK ASSESSMENT AUTHOR: Chris Andrew

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