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| **Name of activity, event, and location** | **Xx Ormskirk Scouts – hike**  Remember – this is just a starting point for you to assess the risk of your activity and you will need to add or take away hazards & controls according to your own findings. **Focus on significant risks.** | **Date of risk assessment** |  | **Name of person doing this risk assessment** |  |
| **Date of next review** |  |

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| **What hazard have you identified? What are the 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?** |
| **A hazard** is something that may cause harm or damage.  **The risk** is the harm that may occur from the hazard. | For example: young people,  adult volunteers,  visitors | **Controls** are ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk from it.  For example, you may use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way you do the activity. | Keep **checking** throughout the activity in case you need to change what you’re doing or even **stop** the activity.  This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review. |
| **Mistakes when navigating** – leading to increased risk of all other hazards. Additional consequences of being lost and exhausted, especially if late or after dark. | All those taking part | Make sure routes are suitable for people’s navigational skills and physical capabilities.  Provide each group with adequate maps, compasses, route instructions, and spares.  Make sure there’s at least one sufficiently competent navigator in each group (consider back up).  Make sure every group has adequate means of emergency communication with event organisers or is adequately monitored. |  |
| **Roads and traffic** – injuries from collisions between vehicles and people. | Young people, leaders | Choose a route with minimal use of roads without a footpath.  Brief young people on safety around roads and expected behaviour.  Adults directly supervise crossing (one on each side of the crossing point). Use designated crossing points if possible.  Walkers at the front and back of the group wear hi-visibility jackets.  Walk single file when on a road. |  |
| **Weather** – rain before and during the hike, hot weather causing heat exhaustion or sun stroke. | Young people, leaders | Monitor weather forecast in advance, if heavy rain forecast then plan alternative activity.  Check weather before the activity starts.  Advise participants on suitable clothing to wear and carry (including sun protection and waterproofs).  Tell everyone to bring a filled water bottle. If it’s very hot, plan water stops and refilling if needed.  Check everyone’s suitably equipped at the start of the hike and have some spare equipment available.  Review route before and during the hike considering weather conditions, for example, if it’s too hot or wet to continue. Make sure routes have escape routes or alternatives. |  |
| **Terrain –** uneven ground, branches, nettles, animals, livestock, and so on. | Young people, leaders | Leaders check routes before the hike.  Leaders physically check any challenging terrain in advance (or plan an alternative route in case it’s too challenging for the group).  Advise participants on suitable footwear and check it before the hike.  Brief young people on safely navigating the terrain, including avoiding brambles, nettles, and so on.  Each group carry first aid kits and have appropriate training.  Encourage everyone to wear long trousers if concerns over foliage or ticks.  Leaders monitor livestock and find alternative routes to avoid crossing fields with livestock in. |  |
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