

RISK ASSESSMENT RECORD HS2.28



WORK AREA/ WORK ACTIVITY COVERED BY ASSESSMENT: **Dinosaur Isle – School field trip to Brook and/or Compton beach (accessed from Brook or Shippards Chine).** RA NO: DRA5

PEOPLE AFFECTED: EMPLOYEES: Y CONTRACTORS: N VISITORS: Y MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: Y OTHER: School staff and children, museum volunteers and work experience students.

ASSESSOR'S NAME: Trevor Price

DESIGNATION: Community Learning Officer

ASSESSMENT DATE: 7th March 2019, version 7

REVIEW DATE: March 2021

ITEM NO	HAZARD IDENTIFIED	POTENTIAL OUTCOME FROM HAZARD	EXISTING CONTROL MEASURES	FURTHER CONTROL MEASURES REQUIRED	ALLOCATED TO?	TARGET DATE	COMPLETED
1	Cliffs.	Falling from cliff. Being hit by falling rock. Getting stuck in mud at the base of the cliff (mud may also be hidden by a thin cover of sand in places).	Teachers must ensure their group keep well away (at least 5 metres) from cliffs in Brook Bay, and 10 metres from the higher cliffs in Compton Bay and at Hanover Point. Children will be briefed about this and other safety matters before the trip.				
2	Tides.	Getting washed away, or drowning.	Only visit at a suitable time. Instruct group to avoid the sea. Teachers should headcount at the start and end of the trip. Tides at this location vary by around 2 hours from the predictions in the tide tables depending on the height of the tide, and the time of year / expected level of sand in the				

			beach. Local knowledge is needed to predict tide times safely. Only use this site on a falling tide, and where possible within 2 hours of low-tide.				
3	Flotsam and jetsam.	Poisoning, explosion, laceration.	Children must alert an adult if they see any suspicious objects or containers.				
4	Large rocks.	Dropping rocks on toes. Tripping over rocks.	Prevent children and adults lifting heavy rocks. Tell children not to run, and to watch where they walk.				
5	Rock splinters.	Being injured by splinters of rock.	There may be occasions when Dinosaur Isle staff will break open a nodule of rock with a hammer. This will only be done when necessary to explain a property of the rock. The children must stand back when this happens and will be given due warning.				
6	Dog faeces.	Transfer of pathogens to children.	Warn group to watch out for it. Wash hands after beach visit if necessary. Washing facilities are available at the Hanover Point carpark toilets (external tap), or children will need to use wipes. Dog faeces are rare in these bays.				

7	Strong sun.	Getting dehydrated and sun –burnt.	Teachers must ensure their group has water and are wearing suitable clothing, caps and sun block if necessary.				
8	Heavy rain.	Getting wet and cold.	Teachers must ensure the group has warm waterproof clothing. School trips will not run in heavy rain.				
9	Traffic.	Member of the group being hit by traffic in the carpark.	Teachers should ensure the group gather in the carpark at Brook safely (coaches may use this carpark). If meeting at Shippards Chine carpark large coaches must park on the grass layby at the entrance. Children should enter/exit the coach from the grass verge..				
10	Slips, trips and falls on the beach.	Slipping on wet clay, or on sand covered blocks of rock. At times the shore platform can be covered in patches of slippery seaweed.	The beach is a public area and falls can only be avoided by supervision and care. Children should be told not to run. Avoid areas of seaweed.				
11	Stones.	Children being injured from thrown stones.	Children are briefed about not throwing stones prior to the walk, and are to be supervised by teachers on the beach.				

12	Broken glass / fishing hooks and line.	Children could be cut picking up objects.	These items appear only at certain times of the year, and are rare. Children will be briefed prior to the walk, and will be supervised. Any large piece of glass or fishing hook / line should be left where it is and reported to a member of staff who will remove it and dispose of it back at the museum.				
13	Strong wind.	Due to the south-western aspect of the bays the winds can be strong and children can be blown about, or subjected to wind-blown sand in the eyes.	Trips will not run in very high winds.				
14	Steps and path to the beach.	At Compton Bay the beach can only be accessed by steps. Children may slip. At Brook Bay the beach is accessed by a cobble-packed path, again – children may slip. At times the steps and access path may suffer damage from the sea and land movement. Closures may mean using a temporary or alternative access point.	The steps at Compton have handrails, and there are normally two parallel sets of steps so children can use one set if members of the public are using the other. Normal care needs to be taken if the cobbles or path at Brook is wet. Teachers should marshal the access until the children are safely on the beach, or back in the carpark.				

15	Edges of gullies / outer edge of wave-cut platform.	Stepping into water.	Keep group together at all times. Warn of hazards at locality.				
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REMEMBER! *THE EXISTING CONTROL MEASURES ARE WHAT YOU ARE DOING NOW. FURTHER CONTROL MEASURES ARE WHAT YOU NEED TO DO TO ACHIEVE AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF SAFETY. RISK ASSESSMENT IS A CONTINUOUS PROCESS, ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE WILL REQUIRE RE-ASSESSMENT

Site information:

Site Name: Brook Bay - Hanover Point - Compton Bay.

Location: South-west coast of Isle of Wight. Grid Ref: SZ 370849 – 385834

Amenities: Toilets (and Ice cream van during the summer) in Shippards Chine Car-Park. Nearest telephone (emergency) is by the toilet block. There is limited signal for mobile phones at certain locations on the beach, but signal strength is generally good in the car park. The toilet block may be closed in the winter. The nearest toilets will then be in Freshwater Bay.

Access: Parties may be dropped off in the National Trust car park at Brook Chine (gravel carpark) or outside the National Trust carpark at Shippards Chine (tarmac carpark). Minibuses may enter both carparks. The beach is reached via steep steps adjacent to the car park at Shippards Chine, otherwise via the path through Brook Chine car park.

Description: The site is a sand and shingle beach backed onto high cliffs of clay, sandstone and gravel. The beach is only fully accessible in a window three hours around the low tide.

Geological Interest: Early Cretaceous Wessex Formation and post glacial gravels. The sequence is rich in fossils, including dinosaurs' foot casts, track ways and plant remains. Dinosaur bones and other younger fossils can be collected loose on the shingle.

NOTE: THIS SITE SHOULD ONLY BE USED ON A FALLING TIDE. FULL BEACH ACCESS MAY BE LIMITED TO WITHIN TWO HOURS OF THE LOW TIDE.