

# **Risk Assessment**

## **Holt Hall Field Study Centre**

### **Birdwatching**

#### **Location**

Cley NWT Reserve, Salthouse Shingle Ridge or other sites.

#### **Risks**

The following risks are applicable to all birdwatching participants.

- Permanent eye damage from looking at the sun with binoculars.
- Tripping when walking while looking through binoculars.
- Injuries caused by binocular strap.
- Injuries caused from looking through binoculars while travelling on the minibus
- Drowning or being swept out to sea.
- Hypothermia, heat exhaustion, heat stroke, sunburn.
- Minibus travel

#### **Control Measures**

##### **Binoculars**

- Young people must be told not to look directly at the sun with binoculars. No birds that are flying in the direction of the sun should be pointed out to them.
- Young people must not walk while looking through binoculars.
- Young people must not look through binoculars while travelling on the minibus.
- Young people must be advised that binoculars must not be swung around their neck and that they must not run when wearing binoculars.

##### **Drowning or being swept out to sea**

- Ensure appropriate ratios of staff:students.
- Tide times and approximate heights must be known.
- Weather conditions must be taken into account especially in relation to tide and wave height.
- Young people may not go down the seaward side of the shingle ridge until instructed to do so.
- The young people must not go into the sea.
- The leader must have a whistle and the young people must always be close enough to hear it and be alerted to the leader's instructions.
- The leader must conduct frequent head counts.
- The leader must have an overview of all the young people at all times.

## **Hypothermia, heat exhaustion, heat stroke, sunburn**

- See general risk assessment

## **Minibus travel**

- See general risk assessment

Reviewed by S Woodhouse

Date: 31.08.06

Reviewed by J Mumford-Smith

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Reviewed by S Woodhouse

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