

# **Risk Assessment**

## **Holt Hall Field Study Centre**

### **Blakeney Point**

#### **Location**

Morston, Blakeney Point

#### **Risks**

The following risks are applicable to anyone taking part in this activity.

- Lost and abducted young people
- Drowning or being swept out to sea, immersion
- Hypothermia, heat exhaustion, heat stroke and sunburn
- Cuts from marram grass
- Injuries occurring while on the boat
- Minibus travel
- Walking between minibus and jetty
- Slipping on jetty

#### **Control Measures**

##### **Lost young people, abduction, drowning or being swept out to sea, immersion**

- Ensure appropriate ratio of staff:students.
- The group 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 group leader must conduct frequent head counts.
- The group leader must wear a luminous jacket to help the young people to locate the leader quickly and easily. There can be many other groups of young people and members of the public on Blakeney Point.
- Young people may not use the public toilets unless accompanied by a member of staff.
- The boats used in this activity are licensed and fully equipped with emergency equipment and procedures. Holt Hall staff should ensure that the boat has full complement of crew and has the correct maximum number of passengers as per licence displayed on the boat.
- All young people must wear a buoyancy aid while on the boat.
- All young people and staff must listen to safety briefing and follow instructions issued by the boat operators.
- In case of immersion, equipment is provided by the boat operators. Blankets must be kept in the minibus and an exposure blanket in the first aid kit. If necessary young people may be taken to the information centre on the point, the information centre on the quay, returned to Holt Hall, or an ambulance may be called, depending on the severity of the incident.

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

- See general risk assessment

### **Cuts from marram grass**

- Young people must be warned that marram grass has sharp points on the leaf tips which can pierce skin and eyes and cause deep cuts. Care must be taken when handling and moving in marram.

### **Injuries occurring while on the boat**

- Young people must keep their hands and feet inside the boat.
- Young people must follow all instructions issued by the boat operators.

### **Minibus travel**

- See general risk assessment

### **Walking between minibus and jetty**

- Staff must give clear instruction and warnings to pupils who should be organised into groups as per ratio and escorted to jetty.

### **Slipping on jetty**

- Pupils should be advised to stay off jetties until called forward
- Pupils should board in single file assisted by crew and school staff

**See also: *Group Safety at Water Margins booklet (DfES/CCPR)***

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