

# **Risk Assessment**

## **Holt Hall Field Study Centre**

### **Pollution Detectives - Beach**

#### **Location**

Weybourne beach to the west of the car park

#### **Risks**

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

- Lost or abducted young people
- Drowning or being swept out to sea, immersion
- Litter danger
- Slipping on steps
- Ranging poles
- Hypothermia, heat exhaustion, heat stroke and sun burn
- Minibus travel

#### **Control Measures**

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

- Ensure appropriate ratio 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 must be under control and not be allowed to run away from the leader across the beach.
- 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.
- The young people must be told how close to the sea they may go. There are usually storm ridges in the shingle, which act as convenient lines along the beach that the young people can recognise.

##### **Litter danger**

- No litter may be picked up or handled under any circumstances as dangerous chemicals and sharp objects such as syringes can be present.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> World War artefacts such as land mines and shells have occasionally been found on North Norfolk beaches. Young people must not touch any suspicious object but must alert a member of staff immediately. If anything suspicious is found you should leave the beach and contact the emergency services.

### **Slipping on steps**

- The steps down to the car park often have pebbles on them making them a slip hazard. Young people must be made aware of the problem and told to take care when using the steps.

### **Ranging poles**

- Ranging Poles must be carried vertically with the point downwards.
- Do not run or jump when carrying a ranging pole.
- Do not put any weight on a ranging pole as they will break or bend.

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

- See general risk assessment

### **Minibus travel**

- See general risk assessment

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