

Activity / Event Title: Generic Hills Walk Risk Assessment

Activity / Event Date: Occasional **Venue or similar:** Malvern Hills and related areas

Person in Charge of Event: Event Organiser/Group Leader **Others attending:** Adults and children. Each Child must have a designated responsible adult present at all times

Date of Assessment: October 2025 **Assessment by:** Derek Barnes. Agreed by St Andrew's Standing Committee 12 January 2026

Summary of Event (inc. transport, numbers, age range, times, etc.): Adults and children (for each of whom there must be a designated responsible adult on the walk) walk together on Malvern Hills and similar open areas in the Malvern area during the daylight hours. It is made clear to all that they participate at their own risk. Nevertheless the Group Leader puts in place some basic precautions including ensuring that the weather conditions and route are appropriate and that those taking part have suitable footwear, clothing, refreshments and medication with them.			Severity or Impact: 5 - Major, 4 - Significant, 3 - Considerable, 2 - Moderate & 1 - Minor, Please see the Instructions worksheet for further details. Likelihood: 5 - Very Likely, 4 - Likely (probably will happen), 3 - Possible, 2 - Not Likely & 1 - Very Unlikely / Rare Risk Value (computed): Major (>19), Significant (>14), Considerable (>9), Moderate (>4) or Minor Risk Level: 1-7 is Low; 8-13 is Medium (What extra precautions can you take?); 14 or more is High (Cancel?)							
See Instructions Tab before		Consequences Who or what will be affected and how	Initial Severity	Estimated Likelihood	Risk Level	Risk Reduction Measures	Risk after Reduction Measures Severity	Risk after Reduction Measures Likelihood	Risk after Reduction Measures Risk Level	Responsible Person for Risk Reduction Measures
1	Adverse weather conditions including wind, rain, sun, ice and visibility	Potentially very serious	4	3	Medium	a. Group Leader checks forecast the day before and on the morning and makes a decision on whether to proceed and informs group if it is cancelled. b. Group Leader must be prepared to adapt the route to allow for changes in the weather conditions and the ability of participants.	3	1	Low	Group Leader
2	Road traffic incident in or near car park (adults and children)	Potentially life threatening	4	2	Medium	Participants to keep children under close supervision in car parks and on access roads and be aware of potential hazards.	3	2	Low	All participants. Group Leader to point out potential hazards and individual responsibilities to all.
3	Inappropriate footwear and / clothing worn by all participants	Potential injury which could be life threatening	3	3	Medium	Group Leader makes sure at the start that everyone: a. Is wearing appropriate footwear for the hills/area. b. Has appropriate clothing with them for the conditions.	3	2	Low	All participants. Group leader should point out potential hazards and individual responsibilities to all participants at
4	Potential hazards on the hills/area, including drops, water and unsafe areas and the ability of those participating	Injury to those involved or others, including young people.	4	3	Medium	a. Always stick to known paths and open areas of ground, ensuring that children do not wander off or get out of adult sight. b. Group Leader to explain the difficulty (including any challenges) when advertising the walk so that participants are aware of what the expect and can determine whether this is well within their own abilities. c. If any participants are unruly or do not follow the Group Leaders clear instructions, the Group Leader will end their participation in the walk in an appropriate safe manner and consider whether they should be able to participate in the future.	4	1	Low	Group Leader, including advertising the expected difficulty, pointing out potential hazards and individual responsibilities to all participants.
5	Accident on the hills	Potentially life threatening, e.g. hyperthermia, heat stoke, broken bones, drowning and cuts and bruises	3	2	Low	Group Leader to ensure that at least the following are carried by the group: a. Charged mobile phone (to summon help). b. Up to date first aid kit (small). c. Water / drinks and some snack / sweets. d. Anyone who might need medication (including epipens) or treatment (e.g. diabetes) has appropriate items with them.	3	2	Low	Group Leader
6	Dog bites and/or acts aggressively towards a human or dog.	Potential injury which could be life threatening	3	2	Low	If any dogs are present, they should always be kept under control and in sight and be kept suitably restrained as necessary.	3	2	Low	All participants. Group leader checks appropriate measures are taken.

Key Actions to be taken:

The Event Organiser will normally be the Group Leader, but if this is not the case this needs to be made clear who the Group Leader is to all attending and formally recorded.
 When advertising the event, the Group Leader must ensure that they appropriately explain the difficulty / challenges on the planned walk.
 Group Leader to review risk assessment understand all the issues and put the risk reduction measures in place, before proceeding
 Group Leader to ensure that all have suitable footwear and clothing and that there is a first kit, water bottle and mobile phone present.

How, to whom and when will this risk assessment be communicated:

Group Leader to instruct all attending what they must and must not do, plus what they need to take / carry.