

# HEALTH AND SAFETY RISK ASSESSMENT SCHOOL / GROUP VISITS

The leaders of all schools/groups visiting Poole's Cavern & Buxton Country Park Cavern should read and familiarize themselves with this document.

In line with statutory Health and Safety Legislation, Poole's Cavern has carried out a risk assessment for schools /groups visiting the site.

In the tables below we have set out potential hazards and how, with the assistance of leaders, we intend to reduce those risks.

<b>CAR PARK:</b>		
Moving Vehicles	Leaders should supervise their party off bus & into the reception area. Coach parking at top of car park and footpath around car park to visitor centre	LOW
<b>VISITOR CENTRE</b>		
Fire.	Site fully alarmed, regularly tested. Staff trained in emergency procedures. Fire Assembly Point at far end of car park.	LOW
Slips & Trips.	Daily site safety inspection Regular maintenance. Cleaning/spillage/house-keeping procedures.	LOW
exhibition	Groups should be supervised in the exhibition, whilst using interactive displays and viewing A/V presentations	LOW
<b>CAVE TOUR:</b>	Introductory Briefing Safety advice & briefing given to schools/groups, by guide.	LOW
Getting Lost.	Tours guided at all times. Group together at all times.	LOW
Feeling Unwell.	First aid equipment on site. Group leader should escort ill person from cave with direction from the cavern guide.	LOW
Hitting Head.	Extra illumination & verbal warnings in narrower/lower passages. All Incidents reported, leading to any necessary procedural review.	LOW

	First Aid Equipment on site.	
Slips & Trips.	Daily cave safety check, regular maintenance, Cave path may be wet in places	LOW
Serious Accident	Direct contact to emergency services. First aid equipment on site. Good response times by Emergency Services Buxton A&E minor injuries 5 minute's drive.	LOW
Emergency Evacuation.	Staff trained in evacuation procedure. Time of entry & number in cave recorded.	LOW
Loss of Lighting.	Automatic emergency system. Guide always carries torch	LOW
Rock-fall.	Daily safety check. Regular geological inspection.	LOW
Leaving Cave.	Pupils not to leave without adult accompaniment. Head warning.	LOW
Rain fall/adverse weather	The underground stream does not reach the level of the path even in heavy rain. The cavern is safe to enter in any weather condition	LOW
<b>SHOP</b>		
Merchandise.	All goods satisfy regulatory safety standards. School/Group leaders asked to supervise children when in retail areas. Limit numbers to 10 max at a time.	LOW
<b>TOILETS:</b>	Slips & Trips. Cleaned and maintained on a daily basis. School/Group leaders asked to supervise children using facilities. Regular checks by staff.	LOW
<b>CAFE</b>	Café is for customers consuming items purchased on site only.	LOW

<b>WOODLANDS / KIDS ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Slips & Trips.	Regular maintenance. Schools/Groups using the Woodland area do so unsupervised by Poole's Cavern staff.	LOW
Woodland activities	Assess weather conditions, wind and rain may affect safe access to woodlands	Assess on site conditions and liaise with Poole's Cavern staff
GO APE COURSE	Groups should not attempt to access any High Wire course installations or equipment or in any way interfere with staff or participants on the GO APE course.	HIGH
Play area	Children should be supervised whilst using the play area	LOW
Picnic Area	Children should be supervised at all times. Litter should be collected and placed in bins provided. Extra bags provided on request.	LOW
Schools room	Fire alarmed and emergency exits illuminated. Groups should be supervised at all times whilst using this facility	LOW

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