

Leeson House and Dorset Council's Outdoor Education Service uses the National Guidance from OEAP (www.oeapng.info) and the SAGE framework to determine ratios and effective supervision. Ratios and effective supervision must be discussed during the planning stage with reference to the specific location and activity risk assessments.

Activity: Lulworth Cove, Stair Hole, Fossil Forest, Mupe Bay, Durdle Door and paths linking these sites

Risk Assessment Completed By: Michael Gould and Matt Smith		Date: January 2024 Review: January 2025	
See General Off-Site Risk Assessment			
1	Remote locations	Illness / accident in a remote location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leader must be familiar with nature of the area under the prevailing conditions and choose working areas and activities appropriate to the conditions and group See SAGE guidance and 'Environment and Staffing'
2	Weather / Exposure	Sun burn/stroke/hyperthermia Wet/cold/hypothermia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the group is adequately equipped and that a weather forecast is obtained. Brief pupils beforehand regarding appropriate clothing and / or sun protection Remind students to drink plenty of water. Consider carrying extra water if the conditions dictate. Carry group shelter / emergency bag / sun cream / spare waterproofs and layers as appropriate. Be prepared to change plans if area chosen is overly exposed to the wind / weather.
3	Slips, trips and falls	Inadequate clothing and footwear for conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief pupils to take care descending paths especially where loose gravel and stones are present Make sure that students are wearing footwear appropriate for location and conditions, e.g., not sliders or sandals/flip flops.
4	Traffic in car parks and on roads. Road crossings.	Traffic in car park areas and on roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief group members about the traffic in car parks and on roads Brief group on how to cross roads appropriately.
5	Members of general public / Abduction / Getting lost	The locations can be busy, and it may be difficult to keep close watch on a group of students. Being polite and courteous if interacting with members of the public.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief pupils to remain in groups at all times, ensure each group has mobile phone. Groups to be given a Leeson House phone number in case of emergency and / or a school staff contact number. Give clear instructions as to meeting points and times. Make sure that groups know where the emergency meeting point is. Remind groups to be polite and courteous at all times in the locations, especially important if groups are doing questionnaires or surveys. Leeson House staff to have had training on de-escalation
6	Sea, risk of drowning, submersion and hypothermia	Fieldwork takes place near to or next to the sea.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief all group members to stay at safe distance from the sea AT ALL TIMES. Tides – check tides are suitable Carry throwlines(s) and be practiced in how to use them Watch the waves for at least 5 minutes before starting work on the beach to ascertain a safe distance to work on the beach

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7	Equipment	Ranging poles / tapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief pupils to carry and use equipment safely
8	Beaches	Glass / other sharp objects / rubbish from sea / dog mess / possible Man o'War jellyfish (siphonophore)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief pupils to take care and be aware of beach surface • Do not pick up any rubbish from the beach
9	Cliff edges / bases	Cliff edges with long drop, loose rock in cliffs. Slopes below viewpoint at Stair Hole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief all group members to be aware of cliff edges and to keep away from tops and bases of cliffs. Some of the cliff edges are unfenced, notably above Man'O War Cove and Durdle Door • Leader must be in front at all times and all other adult helpers must remain vigilant AT ALL TIMES • The Lulworth Estate strongly discourage groups from climbing down into Stair Hole due to the erosion of the slopes, the landslides and mud and the danger from the loose cliffs above.
10	Army ranges	Areas beyond the cove between the Fossil Forest and Mupe Bay are within active army firing ranges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check army range opening times and notices. Ensure that all group members keep within safe area AT ALL TIMES. • Brief group to avoid approaching and/or touching any metal objects found in the area
Emergency		Limited mobile phone reception in the area. Durdle Door beach has better reception. Heritage Centre and Café in Cove are nearest points of contact. Police/Ambulance/Coastguard – 999 or 112	
		Leeson House – 01929 422126	