

Risk assessment

Night Walk



You can find more information in the [Safety checklist for leaders](#) and at scouts.org.uk/safety

UKHQ template published January 2023

Risk assessment

Name of activity, event, and location	Night Walk	Date of risk assessment	August 2024	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Jane Leadbetter GLV
		Date of next review	August 2026		

What could go wrong? What hazard have you identified? What are the risks from it?	Who is at risk?	What are you going to do about it? How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed? How will they be communicated to young people and adults and remain inclusive to all needs?	Review & revise What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
A hazard is something that may cause harm or damage. The risk is the harm that may occur from the hazard.	For example: young people, adult volunteers, visitors	Controls are ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk. For example, you may use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way you do the activity.	Keep checking throughout the activity in case you need to change what you're doing or even stop the activity. This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.
For example: Hazard: fire Risk: smoke inhalation or burns	Leaders, visitors, Young Leaders, Scouts	Smoke: use dry wood, check wind direction, stand people out of smoke direction. Burns: stay a safe distance from fire, place extra wood on carefully, teach Scouts good practice around fires, have a burns first aid kit easily available.	
Darkness: injuries from unseen objects due to bad light	Young people, leaders, adult volunteers	Everyone is encouraged to bring a torch. Awareness of narrow pavements, wheelie bins on pavements, lamp posts and building skips. Awareness of steps around church building.	
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Roads and traffic: injuries from collisions between vehicles and people	Young people, leaders, adult volunteers	We will wear hi-viz jackets to ensure visibility. Route chosen is suitable due to continuous pavements without the need to cross any roads until between the top of Eaton Road over to Salisbury Road. We will walk along pavements in lodge small groups, adult led. We will use the Green Cross Code, with adult supervision, to cross onto Salisbury Road on way back.	
Weather: rain or hot sun during the activity	Young people, leaders, adult volunteers	The leader will monitor the weather forecast in advance. If heavy rain is forecast we will plan a meeting in the scout hut as an alternative. We will be aware of the necessity to wear appropriate clothing and shoes. Everyone will bring a back pack if needing a filled water bottle. Leaders will monitor any children who look overheated.	
Terrain: uneven ground, steps etc	Young People, leaders, adult volunteers	Jane Leadbetter GLV to check suitability of pathways and check and inform everyone of any issues. See above. Leaders to suggest suitable walking shoes to be worn. Leaders to encourage long trousers to be worn for protection. Leaders will brief young people on behaviour in the community, and respect. Leader in charge will carry first aid kit.	

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Security: lost children, accidents	Young people, leaders, adult volunteers	Leaders will inform all present about staying within close proximity of a leader at all times. One leader will lead groups from the front. One leader will take the rear of all groups. Leaders will monitor young people at all times. Leaders will do regular head counts. Leader in charge will have access to up to date young people's emergency contacts. Leader in Charge will carry a first aid kit. Leaders will have charged batteries on mobile phones. Communications via section WhatsApp groups.
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Don't forget, as part of your programme planning, you should have contingency activities in reserve just in case you can't do what was planned or you need to stop half way through. Make sure this is shared with those involved, so everyone knows how to respond. You should have risk assessed contingency activities prior to them taking place and communicated key information to those involved as with all activities.

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