Risk Assessment – Redcar Rocks

Assessor: Liam Herringshaw	Signature: *LGHerringshaw*	Assessment Date: 15th May 2026	
Activity/location: Fossil and geology walks, Redcar Rocks		Review Date: 15th August 2026	

Persons/area at risk:	Severity:	Likelihood:
A=All E=Employee CT=Contractors P=Public V=Visitors LW=Lone Worker	1= Minor injury (no time lost) 2=Harmful (up to 3 days lost) 3= Extremely Harmful (over 3 days lost) 4=Major injury (loss of limb etc) 5=Fatality	1=Rare 2=Unlikely 3=Likely 4=Very Likely 5=Certain

Risk Rating

Risk Rating (Sx L)	Likelihood (L)				
	5	4	3	2	1
Severity (S) 5	25	20	15	10	5
4	20	16	12	8	4
3	15	12	9	6	3
2	10	8	6	4	2
1	5	4	3	2	1

Hazard	Persons at Risk	Original Risk			Existing Controls	Persons at Risk	Current Risk			Further action required	Target Date	Date completed	Persons at Risk	Final Risk		
		Severity	Likelihood	Total risk rating			Severity	Likelihood	Total risk rating					Severity	Likelihood	Total risk rating
Cut off by tide on Redcar beach	All	5	2	10	The dates and times have been chosen for good low tides, with the group going out onto the beach on a falling tide, and finishing around low tide. The group will follow a route that has multiple access points via steps or slipways. Trip participants also advised to call 999 and ask for the Coastguard in situation of being cut off by the tide.	All	5	1	5	Trip leader will assess weather predictions in the run-up to the trip. If a storm surge is predicted, the trip will be postponed.	9/6/25		All	5	1	5
Injury caused by vehicles on Redcar esplanade	All	5	2	10	The route onto the beach follows a pedestrianized route, and traffic is not permitted during the event. Participants will be advised to look out for vehicles when we get close to the main Esplanade, where there is parking, but the walk will then leave the footpath and go down onto the beach.	All	5	1	5	On the day of the event, trip leaders will remind participants to be vigilant for vehicle traffic, especially when walking close to the Esplanade road.	9/6/25					
Being hit by waves and injured, or swept out to sea.	All	5	2	10	The trip will not go close to the sea, and the timings of the trip have been chosen so that the tide is falling. Participants will be advised of risks of getting close to, or entering the water, and of waves (especially rogue waves). Redcar is not an RNLI Lifeguarded beach. Participants will be advised to call 999 and ask for the Coastguard if they or a member of their group get into difficulty.	All	5	1	5	Trip leader will assess weather predictions in the run-up to the trip. If a weather warning has been issued, or a storm surge is predicted, the trip will be postponed.	9/6/25		All	5	1	5

Altercation with member of public during walk	All	2	2	4	The walk is in a public space but the group will not directly approach members of the public. Trip leaders will act as lead contact with the public, if required.	All	2	1	2	Trip leaders will remind participants on the day, and can call the police if necessary.	9/6/25		All	2	1	2
Aggressive interaction with a dog on Redcar beach	All	4	2	8	The section of the beach which we walk upon is a dog exclusion zone between May 1st and Sept 30th. At other times of year, trip leaders will endeavour to lead the group away from dogs that are off lead.	All	4	1	4	Participants will be reminded on the day of the possibility of dogs being off-lead, even within the exclusion zone, and if encountering and off-lead dog, to stand still, stay calm, and avoid eye contact.	9/6/25		All	4	1	4
Slipping on mud, wet rocks, or rocks covered in seaweed	All	3	3	9	Participants will be advised to wear footwear with good grip and ankle support. The slipway down from the esplanade onto the beach can be slippery, but is well-maintained. The tour will primarily follow the shingle- or sand-covered parts of the beach. Seaweed-covered areas (especially slippery rocks) will be avoided wherever practicable. Activities must be led by field leaders experienced in such conditions.	All	3	2	6	Conditions will be assessed in the week leading up to the trip. If the weather is particularly wet, or algal growth is particularly excessive in any areas, the leader will take the group on an alternative route across the beach.	9/6/25		All	3	2	5
Slipping, tripping or falling over loose boulders on the foreshore.	All	3	3	9	Party members will be requested to wear appropriate footwear with good grip, to follow the leader's recommended route, and not to scramble over boulders. The party will move at a slow pace, primarily across sandy or shingle beach. Leaders will remind party of risks on the day, before beginning the walk.	All	2	2	4	Briefing on the day, before descending to the beach. Advise on footwear and slow pace of walking. A first aid kit will be carried for minor injuries. If injury requiring treatment occurs, local hospital details are provided below.	9/6/25		All	2	2	4
Hammering causing chips to fly and injuring members (eye damage esp.) from brittle rocks	All	3	3	9	Hammering will not be permitted during the fossil-hunting trip. Redcar Rocks is part of a Site of Special Scientific Interest, particularly for its fossils, and damaging the bedrock without Natural England's consent is prohibited.	All	2	2	4	Participants will be reminded of the SSSI status of the bay, and the no hammering rule, on the day of the trip.	9/6/25		All	2	2	4

TRIP LEADER CONTACT DETAILS

To be provided via online booking system, and participants reminded again on the day, before walk starts.

MEDICAL TREATMENT DETAILS

Urgent, non-life-threatening conditions – treatment is available between 8am and 11.59pm, 7 days a week, at Redcar Primary Care Hospital, West Dyke Road, Redcar, Cleveland. TS10 4NW. (What3Words: https://what3words.com/treat.ample.kinds)
https://www.nhs.uk/services/clinic/redcar-primary-care-hospital/RTR18/departments/SRV0541/urgent-treatment-centre

Emergency treatment, including A&E – call 999
– James Cook Hospital, Middlesbrough, Marton Road, Middlesbrough. TS4 3BW
https://www.southtees.nhs.uk/services/accident-and-emergency/

Please save an electronic copy of this form on an appropriate drive or storage device, and take a hard copy or copies on the trip.