

# RISK ASSESSMENT SOE 6

**ESTABLISHMENT:** Ilfracombe Arts College **ASSESSMENT DATE:** 5th September 12

**ACTIVITY/ENVIRONMENT:** Surfing lessons **COMPLETED BY:** Rob Whitney/Joe Matthews

**EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:** Beginner Surfing lessons, Beach safety and general sport fitness.

**DATE REVIEWED**

## OUTDOOR EDUCATION, VISITS AND OFF-SITE ACTIVITIES: DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL

**Travelling**

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| **1. Hazard**  List significant hazards which may result in serious harm of affect several people. | **2. Who might be harmed?**  List groups of people who are especially at risk from the significant hazards identified | **3. Is the risk adequately controlled?**  List existing controls or note where the information may be found. (e.g Information, instruction training, systems or procedures) | **4. What further action is needed to control the risk?**  List the risks which are not adequately controlled and proposed action where it is reasonably practicable to do more. |
| **RTA in minibus** | **Students and staff** | **Driver is fully qualified, safety checks will be made prior to journey to insure safe running order of minibus. Students will be briefed on behaviour in minibus.** | **Extra member of staff will be able to tend to student’s needs during journey.** |
| **Traffic accident in beach car park** | **Students and staff** | **Students will be fully briefed on behaviour and safety, students will stay together as a group and will be supervised at all times.** |  |
| **Breakdown of Minibus** | **Students and staff** | **Students kept in a safe area and in their group. Breakdown services called and parents informed of changes to schedule. Safety equipment to be placed on road.** |  |
| **Inappropriate behaviour of students** | **Students and staff** | **Students will be fully briefed on behaviour and safety, students will stay together as a group and will be supervised at all times.** |  |

**Around The Surf Centre**

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| **All areas** | **Students and staff** | **Students to be supervised at all times** |  |
| **Stairs and stairways** | **Students and staff** | **Area appropriately signed. Students given safety brief of centre and behaviour expectations ratified.** |  |
| **Sandpit Demonstration Area** | **Students** | **Area appropriately signed. Area is off-limits when covered and therefore is supervised when in use by staff.** |  |
| **Board hire area** | **Students and staff** | **Boards are secured in surf racks within a cage** | **Extra restraints used in times of high winds or storms** |
| **Board trolleys** | **Students and staff** | **Trolleys parked in a safe place away from thoroughfares with handles away from people.** | **Staff members to ensure appropriate use of trolleys** |
| **Gates and doors** | **Students and staff** | **Storage areas are signed for use by staff only. Gates and doors are secured when opened and locked and closed when not in use.** |  |
| **Shower area** | **Students and staff** | **Area appropriately signed. Cleaned after use and floor mats in place.** | **Staff members to disinfect after each session.** |
| **Changing rooms** | **Students and staff** | **Floors to kept clear and personal items appropriately stored in shelving** | **Rooms checked and cleaned before and after use.** |
| **Inappropriate equipment** | **Students and staff** | **Instructors to have their own personal wetsuits, boots and gloves, all in excellent condition. Clients to have correct sized equipment. Boards to be distributed of appropriate size, weight and construction with safety leash securely intact.** | **Equipment thoroughly checked before each session.** |

**Getting to the beach**

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| **Pathways to and from the beach** | **Students and staff** | **Group to be briefed about procedure to and from the beach. Group to be made aware of current conditions of pathways and routes taken. Ensure appropriate footwear is worn at all times** | **Staff to maintain visual of the group at all times. Staff to lead at the front and bring up the rear of the group.** |
| **Falling, slipping, tripping** | **Students and staff** | **Group to be briefed about procedure to and from the beach. Group to be made aware of current conditions of pathways and routes taken. Ensure appropriate footwear is worn at all times** | **Use of recognised pathways to the beach** |
| **Cuts and bruises** |
| **Sand dunes, flora and fauna** | **Students and staff** | **Groups are made aware of possible encounters and appropriate response action** | **Use of recognised pathways to the beach** |

**The Beach**

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| **Injury in the se**  **a caused by surfer / surfboard** | **Students and staff** | **Full safety training will be included in all surf lessons. Boards used by beginners will be foam boards (much softer), students will be very well supervised by staff including myself (qualified beach lifeguard and surf instructor). First aid kit will be left with rescue board on the beach.** | **All staff experienced surfers plus my relevant qualifications.**  **First aid kit always close by.**  **Lifeguards on the beach will be informed and consulted before every session.** |
| **Hypothermia in or out of the sea** | **Students and staff** | **Full wetsuits used and of good quality and suitable thickness for the time of year. Dry towels on the minibus, relatively short sessions in the sea and session length will be weather dependent.** |  |
| **Being caught in rips and currents** | **Students and staff** | **Students will receive full safety training which includes beach and sea hazards such as rips and how to spot them and what to do if your in one. Students kept only at waist depth. Rescue board on the beach if necessary to be used when all other students are out of the water and supervised.** | **Lifeguards on the beach will be informed and consulted before every session.**  **Very good staff to student ratio**  **mobile phone with first aid kit for emergencies.** |
| **Drowning** | **Students and staff** | **All students will be required to be able to swim 50m unaided. Students briefed on how to attract attention, lifeguards watching, staff in the water, wetsuits will give buoyancy, students attached to boards via leashes.** | **Lifeguards on the beach will be informed and consulted before every session.**  **Very good staff to student ratio**  **mobile phone with first aid kit for emergencies.** |
| **Rocks** | **Students and staff** | **Minimal rock dangers on this beach, students will not be near to them.** | **Consult lifeguards to particular dangers, all staff have very good knowledge and experience of this location.** |
| **Stings from sea creatures** | **Students and staff** | **Very low risk, students have option of wearing boots (provided), students will have stated if they are allergic on their consent forms.**  **Anaphylactic shock – Lifeguards available for assistance, mobile phone with first aid kit for emergencies.** | **Lifeguards available to assist with hot water etc.** |
| **Rough weather conditions** | **Students and staff** | **Dangers associated with high winds, hail, snow and rain etc** | **Check weather report before setting off on the journey. Make suitable beach selection else postpone event.** |

**Location Specific: Croyde**

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| **Rocks at northern and southern ends with adjacent tidal rip currents** | **Students and staff** | **Lessons conducted in safe area away from idenfied hazards** | **Instructors to monitor throughout the lesson for deteriorating conditions** |
| **Small stream in the centre of the beach containing debris** | **Students and staff** | **Group to avoid crossing rocky or debris cluttered areas** | **Instructor to lead a direct safe passageway to and from the beach** |
| **Other beach users** | **Students and staff** | **Students made aware of other beach users** | **Instructors to maintain group integrity and safe operating area** |
| **Weather/ocean conditions** | **Students and staff** | **Instructors to maintain awareness of changing weather conditions and proceed or cancel lesson as necessary** | **Pre-check weather conditions. In the case of cancelling a lesson due to dangerous ocean or atmospheric conditions, ensure adequate time necessary to clear clients from the beach** |
| **Absence of lifeguard service** |

**Location Specific: Saunton**

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| **Rocks at northern with adjacent tidal rip currents** | **Students and staff** | **Lessons conducted in safe area away from idenfied hazards** | **Instructors to monitor throughout the lesson for deteriorating conditions** |
| **Other beach users** | **Students and staff** | **Students made aware of other beach users** | **Instructors to maintain group integrity and safe operating area** |
| **Weather/ocean conditions** | **Students and staff** | **Instructors to maintain awareness of changing weather conditions and proceed or cancel lesson as necessary** | **Pre-check weather conditions. In the case of cancelling a lesson due to dangerous ocean or atmospheric conditions, ensure adequate time necessary to clear clients from the beach** |
| **Absence of lifeguard service** |

**Location Specific: Putsborough**

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| **Access to path is steep and can be slippery leading onto concrete steps** | **Students and staff** | **Group to be briefed about procedure to and from the beach. Group to be made aware of current conditions of pathways and routes taken.** **Ensure appropriate footwear is worn at all times** | **Staff to maintain visual of the group at all times. Staff to lead at the front and bring up the rear of the group.** |
| **Rocks at southern ends with adjacent tidal rip currents** | **Students and staff** | **Lessons conducted in safe area away from identified hazards** | **Instructors to monitor throughout the lesson for deteriorating conditions** |
| **Rocks to be navigated at high tide mark** | **Students and staff** | **Groups made aware of tidal conditions and routes to be taken. Ensure appropriate footwear is worn at all times** | **Use of recognised pathways to the beach.** |
| **Potential strong rips and lateral northward moving sweeps at high tide.** | **Students and staff** | **Lessons conducted in a safe area away from identified hazards** | **Instructors to monitor throughout the lesson for deteriorating conditions** |
| **Other beach users** | **Students and staff** | **Students made aware of other beach users** | **Instructors to maintain group integrity and safe operating area** |
| **Weather/ocean conditions** | **Students and staff** | **Instructors to maintain awareness of changing weather conditions and proceed or cancel lesson as necessary** | **Pre-check weather conditions. In the case of cancelling a lesson due to dangerous ocean or atmospheric conditions, ensure adequate time necessary to clear clients from the beach** |
| **Absence of lifeguard service** |

**Location Specific: Woolacombe**

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| **Access to path is steep and can be slippery leading onto concrete steps** | **Students and staff** | **Group to be briefed about procedure to and from the beach. Group to be made aware of current conditions of pathways and routes taken. Ensure appropriate footwear is worn at all times** | **Staff to maintain visual of the group at all times. Staff to lead at the front and bring up the rear of the group.** |
| **Rocks at northern ends with adjacent tidal rip currents** | **Students and staff** | **Lessons conducted in safe area away from identified hazards** | **Instructors to monitor throughout the lesson for deteriorating conditions** |
| **Small stream in the centre of the beach containing debris** | **Students and staff** | **Group to avoid crossing rocky or debris cluttered areas** | **Instructor to lead a direct safe passageway to and from the beach** |
| **Potential strong rips and lateral northward moving sweeps at high tide.** | **Students and staff** | **Lessons conducted in a safe area away from identified hazards** | **Instructors to monitor throughout the lesson for deteriorating conditions** |
| **Other beach users** | **Students and staff** | **Students made aware of other beach users** | **Instructors to maintain group integrity and safe operating area** |
| **Weather/ocean conditions** | **Students and staff** | **Instructors to maintain awareness of changing weather conditions and proceed or cancel lesson as necessary** | **Pre-check weather conditions. In the case of cancelling a lesson due to dangerous ocean or atmospheric conditions, ensure adequate time necessary to clear clients from the beach** |
| **Absence of lifeguard service** |

**On review, check that the precautions for each hazard still adequately control the risk. If not, indicate what you need to do. Note the outcome.**