

Risk Assessment for Orienteering

This risk assessment is provided as guidance only. It contains the specific risks associated with using the orienteering courses in the Three Brooks Local Nature Reserve, Bradley Stoke.

It is your responsibility to carry out your own assessment.

For further guidance please email communityspaces@southglos.gov.uk. We recommend a pre-visit if you are unfamiliar with the Three Brooks Local Nature Reserve in Bradley Stoke.

LOCATION	Three Brooks Local Nature Reserve, Bradley Stoke, South Gloucestershire
ACTIVITY	Using the Three Brooks Orienteering courses and Nature Trails
PERSONS AT RISK	School aged children (aged 4-16) and adult helpers, school staff, members of the public, special needs groups

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Emergency Services **999** or **112**

HOSPITALS

Southmead – Minor injuries unit – Tel. 0117 950 5050 Postcode: BS10 5NB

Bristol Childrens Hospital – Accident and Emergency Department – Tel: 0117 921 5411 Postcode: BS2 8BJ

HAZARDS	LEVEL OF RISK (LOW, MEDIUM OR HIGH)
Outside Environment <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Terrain – trips, slips and falls 2. Weather 3. Watercourses 	<p>LOW</p> <p>LOW</p> <p>LOW</p>
Dogs <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dog faeces 2. Attack by dogs 	<p>LOW</p> <p>LOW</p>
Missing participants or marshals	MEDIUM
Supervision and personal safety	MEDIUM



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RISK CONTROL MEASURES	
HAZARDS	
Terrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants should be clearly briefed about steep banks (eg <i>The Tump</i>) in preliminary safety talk • Ensure adequate adult supervision (see <i>supervision and personal safety</i>) • Students must wear appropriate shoes • In wet conditions group leader should specify that students walk rather than run around courses as paths may be slippery.
Weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants must bring appropriate clothing and footwear – as a minimum a warm jumper, hat, gloves and waterproof coat while in the summer a water bottle would also be advisable • Spare clothing must be brought by school/group leader • Choose an appropriate course for your group • Participants should be clearly briefed about weather in preliminary safety talk.
Watercourses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses are planned to avoid the need to enter watercourses. Bridges should be used when crossing brooks • Guidelines will be given to groups during initial group safety talk on the importance of good hygiene when in the outside environment and particularly when near water.
Dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants should be clearly briefed about dogs. If approached by a dog stand still, give no eye contact and fold arms in • If participants come into contact with dog faeces instruct them to wash it off immediately.
Missing participants or officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Runners should be sent out in pairs (<i>as a minimum</i>). For younger groups an adult should accompany each group • The perimeter of the Three Brooks Local Nature Reserve is defined by walls/fences/hedgerows and public highways. Participants should be clearly briefed about boundaries in the preliminary safety talk • The group leader must bring a student list and monitor finishers' control cards to ensure everyone has returned • Choose an appropriate course for your group • The Leisure Centre is the nearest public facility to the course.
Supervision and personal safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An accompanying teacher/helper will have the responsibility as a back marker when walking along paths to the start of the course • A clear finish time and meeting place should be set before participants start the courses • Students should be made aware of appropriate behaviour at the start of the day • The group leader must carry safety equipment including; first aid kit and mobile phone • Supervision ratios will fulfil LEA guidelines – we recommend a minimum of 1:6 staff:students • Participants should be instructed to stay in pairs and not approach strangers • Marshals should wear a bib to ensure they are easily recognisable.

