

RISK ASSESSMENT

This risk assessment has been written by BXM Expeditions for Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expeditions, specifically

Written by: Ben Maxfield Date of RA (revised annually): January 2026

The risk ratings can be of a high/Medium or Low and must have more than one preventative measure for Medium or high-risk ratings.

Please note that although a Senior decision can authorise and make changes, it is all leaders' and teachers' responsibility to report or act on any risks.

Hazard	Who is at risk?	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating	Preventative Measures	Responsibilities
Animals / Livestock	all	Leaders to ensure they brief students on how to behave in farmland areas and when approaching animals on their route. Participants are not to approach pets or livestock while walking.	low	Participants to contact their instructor for help should they encounter animals and are worried about continuing their route. Instructors to alter levels of supervision to keep participants safe in areas with livestock.	All staff and participants to ensure they are sensible.
Crossing a road	Individuals in the group	Leaders to ensure that individuals are briefed about roads, and that routes are redirected where appropriate	Medium	During remote supervision, the leader will always use this as an opportunity to use as a check point where appropriate	All staff and participants to ensure they are sensible.
Gas stove burning or catching a tent on fire	Individuals in the group	Full training to be given on gas stoves prior to participants using them. First Aid kits available. Stoves are checked regularly	Low	Clarity of understanding checks, supervision during training exercises. A visual assessments during training, Training to be given to participants on burns. Use long reach lighters	The groups to behave and act properly and carefully, first aid kit to be carried. Leaders to do visual and verbal checks
Drowning	Individuals in the group	Individuals will be directly supervised during training time, all routes are checked, and participants will be briefed on the	Low	Areas to be checked by Leaders to be made aware of areas with	BXM Management and leaders. Participants to follow instructors in a

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		dangers of waters, no water should be approached by an individual alone, there are not any river crossings or dangerous riverbanks on the route, during remote supervision, routes are checked thoroughly prior to all expeditions.		potential danger. Participants to be instructed on the dangers.	mature and sensible manner.
Illness or injury	Individuals in the group	Leaders to make sure they check medical forms and ask participants for any illness and injuries. Parents to be called if the participants need to go home. Students to bring own mess tins	Medium	Leaders to be vigilant for any changes in the terrain when walking or general surroundings.	BXM Management to pass procedures to leaders. Leaders to make themselves aware of procedures. Leaders to be vigilant throughout participants to take care.
Getting lost	All	Leaders are experienced in working in remote areas Leaders to work with in their qualified level of competence	Low	Groups to be directly supervised during the day	BXM Management to pass on route details. Leaders to use their skills to navigate appropriately
High winds	All	The route is along a path. Any road walking should be done with care, and supervised if appropriate.	Medium	The paths are good and deemed safe. Participants will not be allowed on top of any ridges if the winds are deemed too severe	BXM to check and assess routes. All adults to express
Hot Sun leading to heat exposure or sun burn, Hyperthermia	All	The weather has been checked, Training framework has been followed	Medium	The groups clothing will be checked and assessed throughout the day to ensure no one is over dressed for the heat. The leader will check all students have a sufficient amount of water and the leader will also carry water.	The Leaders to check the group and be responsible for ensuring water is available.

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Cold winds, rain or weather leading to Hypothermia	All	The weather will be checked regularly; groups will have appropriate clothing. Training framework has been followed.	Medium	Sufficient layers to be taken by every group member and spares taken by the leader, also a tent for protection from the elements as the fly sheet can be used as an emergency shelter	The leader to reassess the weather situation (Especially after midday) Leaders to carry extra gear, the leader to check the groups clothing prior departing.
A slip or fall on an incline	All	The route goes along paths. Some area may need direct supervision	Medium	A first Aid kit will be carried, participants will stick to paths, training will be given on descents. Training framework has been followed.	The Leader to be vigilant and assess routes constantly
Injury on campsite, also including anxiety attacks, or getting lost in the grounds	All	The Campsites are checked regularly by BXM staff. BXM are aware of facilities, shelters, space and campsites staffing. Groups who will be 'wild camping' (Gold Only) will be given specific training around wild camping.	Low	BXM staff either stay with students, nearby or make them aware of how to get to them. This depends on the level and procedures of the expedition. Bronze and Silver will always have staff on the campsite.	BXM Staff and responsible behaviour by students.
Bites and stings	All	Participants will be trained how to deal with Bites and Stings, including Ticks. Instructors will have spray or cream and medical forms to ensure that this can be applied.	Low	Instructor to be vigilant and speak with participants daily to see if they are aware of any bites	Instructor to be vigilant and speak with participants daily to see if they are aware of any bites

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