

Carmarthenshire Peat bogs site visit information

Please read the following advice prior to visiting any of the Carmarthenshire peat bogs. Before visiting with pupils we recommend that teachers visit beforehand to familiarise themselves with the site. We have provided the following information to make teachers aware of the risks on site and provide recommendations to reduce these risks, however it is the responsibility of the school to complete their own risk assessment taking into account any additional risks or pupil requirements.

In addition to the above we recommend that groups visiting have at least one first aid trained person and carry a first aid kit at all times. Mobile phones should be fully charged with all group leaders being aware of emergency numbers. There are no toilet facilities at the site. We hope you enjoy your visit.

Help us protect the site!

Please make pupils aware that wildflowers should not be picked and nothing should be removed from the site.

Hazard	Risk level	Precautions to be put in place to reduce the risk level
walking in remote area/ lost children	Low	Teachers are advised to visit the site beforehand to familiarise themselves with the site and terrain. Teachers should use the 'buddy system' to ensure pupils are always aware of those around them. Ensure there is an adult at the front and the back of the group. Count pupils regularly and make pupils aware of plans should they become lost.
Adverse weather	Low	If adverse weather conditions (including high winds) make visits to site unsafe, they should be postponed or cancelled. Visitors should wear the appropriate clothing when visiting the site. Including sturdy foot wear. They should also have available clothing appropriate for a variety of weather conditions. In hot weather apply sun-block. Weather is likely to be colder on site than at school, teachers and pupils should bring extra clothing.
Ice/mud/debris on tracks or slopes	Medium	Ice, mud and water on site. Teachers should ensure that pupils are aware of this and avoid wet areas on the site. Visitors should wear appropriate footwear, and remain firm on the open paths.
Litter, metal, glass, etc	Low	Broken glass, scraps of metal and litter may be present on site. Pupils and teachers should be aware of this and avoid touching or picking up litter.
Children climbing on loose stone or outcrops	Low	There may be some loose rock on site which pupils may be tempted to climb on. Teachers should advise pupils of their unstable nature and it is strongly advised that climbing is avoided. Any children caught climbing on such structures should be told to stop and climb down (if it is safe to do so) immediately.

Hazard	Risk level	Precautions to be put in place to reduce the risk level
Marshy and waterlogged ground	Medium	Teachers should advise pupils to be aware that the ground will be soft and marshy during the visit. Pupils and teachers should wear appropriate footwear. Teachers should use the 'buddy system' to ensure pupils are always aware of those around them. Ensure there is an adult with each group. Pupils should not go near areas that are too waterlogged and stay away from ponds on site.
Livestock	Low	Sheep and horses may be present in the area. Other farm animals may also be present, including sheepdogs. Teachers should encourage pupils not to disturb the sheep, feed the mountain ponies or go near any other animals.
Drops from high areas	Low	Pupils should be advised to stay away from cliff edges and any other hazardous areas.
Sanitation/hydration	Low	Toilet facilities will not be available on site. Basic hand washing facilities should be brought along and made available.
Irritation to skin	Low	Pupils should be made aware that some plants can cause irritation to skin. Pupils should not touch any plants they are unsure of and hand washing facilities should be made available.
Other identified hazards	Low	<p>At least one of the supervisory staff should be qualified in first aid and first aid kit should be in his / her possession on the visit.</p> <p>Teachers should also have a mobile phone with them and be aware of emergency numbers.</p> <p>Please be aware that the site may not be accessible to wheelchair users or the less able. Teachers should also check that asthma sufferers have the correct medication with them as there are some steep areas along the walk.</p>