

Kenelm Youth Trust Activity Risk Assessment – Mountain Biking

Hazards	Who is affected	Likelihood	Severity	Risk Control Measure	Further Risk Control Measure / Actions	Residual Risk
General	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	N/A	N/A	Activity Leaders to check weather forecast prior to each ride. Alton Castle to hold a stock of spare clothing and equipment. Activity Leaders are to prevent inappropriately dressed individuals from riding. Activity Leaders to have suitable adverse weather plans in place – i.e. sheltered routes, shorter routes, etc. Activity Leaders will carry a mobile phone. Activity Leaders must be current Outdoor First Aid holders to lead a mountain biking activity.	Activity Leaders to plan ahead.	Low
Cold and wet conditions	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Slight Harm	Activity Leaders to check participants' clothing and equipment prior to departure, ensuring participants have adequate warm and waterproof clothing for the activity.	Activity Leaders to ensure all participants are suitably clothed.	Low



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Over Heating	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	Activity Leader must ensure adequate water is available and used during shaded breaks. Activity Leader must ensure a reasonable pace is set in relation to the age and ability of the group and the weather.	Activity Leaders to ensure the group drinks water regularly as required.	Low
Sunburn	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	When applicable, Activity Leaders to monitor the participants, paying particular attention to sunscreen and suitable clothing (school staff to apply suncream, not staff)	Activity Leaders to ensure sunscreen is available.	Low
Lightning	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Highly Unlikely	Fatal	Activity Leader not to take participants out in a lightning storm. If caught out in a lightning storm, then Activity Leader must take the participants to the safest place to shelter during the storm.	Activity Leaders to check forecast prior to activity.	Low
Snow and Ice	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Very Harmful	An alternate activity will be substituted for mountain biking during periods of snow and ice.	Programme Leader to provide an alternative activity.	Low
Participants getting lost (individual and group) or participant being separated from the group	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Unlikely	Slight Harm	All Activity Leaders will be familiar with routes. There will be one Activity Leader riding at the front and one at the back at all times. They will make sure there is visual contact at all times. Both Leaders will have a mobile phone to make contact with each other.		Low



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Manoeuvring around Crate Stack activity	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	All biking groups are instructed to leave the moat via the righthand arch under the bridge, following the signs which indicate the correct route to take.		Low
Collision	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	Participants are requested to keep two bike lengths apart so as to avoid collisions. Activity Leaders to marshal the group to avoid collisions with members of the public.		Low
Mountain bike riders (MTB) colliding with walking groups using the same route/bike track	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff and public	Likely	Very Harmful	It is the responsibility of the Centre Director/Programme Leaders (Soli, Castle, BCYS and or Summer Camp co-ordinators) to ensure that they have de-conflicted their respective rides to prevent possible collisions.	Centre Director/Programme Leaders to communicate effectively.	Low
Being hit by vehicles whilst crossing or walking along tracks or roads	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff and public	Unlikely	Very Harmful	Few tracks/roads are used on the route. The first and last group member (team) must wear high visibility Kit Bags. The Centre is in communication with Forestry England and are informed of logging operations in Dimmingsdale.	Single road crossing at Dimmingsdale/Ramblers Retreat fully supervised by Activity Leaders and Teacher.	Low



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Individuals unable to ride a bike or unsuited to the ride	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Unlikely	Harmful	Expectations will be made clear to the group in advance. Activity Leader (MBLA L1) can refuse to take a group member on a bike ride on lack of ability and safety grounds. An assessment exercise will be undertaken prior to leaving on the bike ride to ascertain each group member's ability. This will involve getting on and off the bike, riding, steering, braking, and manoeuvring. Anyone deemed by the Activity Leader not to be able to safely ride a bike, will be moved to an alternative activity.		Low
Livestock/horses	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	Group management through fields containing livestock. Activity Leaders will instruct riders to dismount and place the bike between them and any approaching horse on a bridal way.	Activity Leaders to dynamically assess whether it is necessary to walk with bikes in single file through fields containing livestock.	
Falling off bikes due to uneven/rough terrain on tracks/travelling too fast/steep gradients	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Very Harmful	Group members are briefed on the nature of the tracks prior to departure. Activity Leaders to adjust the speed at which the group is travelling to suit the changing ground conditions/surface type. Any new hazards to be reported by Activity Leaders to Activities Manager or Programme Leaders. The first descent of the bike ride is as a group "braked roll". Activity leaders to fully	Activity Leaders are to dynamically assess riders' abilities and ground conditions and particularly at the steep field leading down to the bridge and river crossing dismount riders through hazardous areas.	Low



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				brief participants and set the pace down the bike track. One Activity Leader will monitor the groups decent pace down the bike track from the bottom of the nightline fence.		
<u>Wet/slippery/adverse ground conditions</u>	<u>Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff</u>	<u>Likely</u>	<u>Harmful</u>	<u>The Activity Leaders are to dynamically assess the ground conditions and where required dismount riders through hazardous areas.</u>	<u>Activity Leaders are to dynamically assess riders' abilities and ground conditions and particularly at the steep field leading down to the bridge and river crossing dismount riders through hazardous areas.</u>	<u>Low</u>
Asthma Attacks/other medical conditions	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Unlikely	Harmful	All medical information will be declared in advance. Teachers advised of suitability of activity. All current medicines and inhalers to be taken on the activity.		Low
Injury (bangs, scrapes, cuts & breakages, eye injury)	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	The cyclists will be fitted with helmets that conform to Safety Standards. The session will be run in accordance with the Health and Safety Guidelines at the Centre. All team members are outdoor first aid qualified. Gloves should be worn by all on this activity. Closed toed footwear must be worn by all participants. Safety glasses are made available in muddy conditions to reduce the risk of mud in the eyes. Activity Leader to dynamically asses		Low

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				the requirement to wear safety glasses.		
Failure on a part of the bike	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Unlikely	Harmful	All bikes are checked regularly by an appropriately qualified mechanic. A minor repair kit will be taken on each ride. The team members are trained in minor repairs. Following a serious accident (RIDDOR reportable) the bike involved must be taken offline until it can be fully checked by the KYT Mechanic. All bike faults are reported and taken out of use until the bike is repaired.		Low
Water/Drowning	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Highly Unlikely	Fatal	River Churnet is crossed by means of a bridge <u>owned by JCB</u> . -Bridge has <u>handrails</u> fitted to both sides.	Activity Leader to dynamically assess the crossing in times of high rainfall.	Low
Structural Failure of the JCB Bridge	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Unlikely	Very Harmful	In consultation with JCB Estates Director there is to be no more than 2 or 3 bikes crossing the JCB bridge at any one time.		Low

The Minimum Qualification to lead this activity at KYT is British Cycling Mountain Bike Leader Level 1

Risk assessment conducted by:	Signature:	Date:	Approved by:	Signature:	Next scheduled review date:
Richard Moore		Apr 2024	Sandra Satchell		Apr 2025



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