



Generic Risk Assessment – Independent Beach Visit

This risk assessment supports young people visiting the beach independently for educational purposes. It identifies potential hazards and self-guided precautions to minimise risks while exploring the coastal environment responsibly.

Hazard	Person at Risk	Control Measures	Severity	Likelihood	Risk Level
Slips, trips & falls	Student	Wear sturdy footwear. Avoid wet rocks, steep slopes, and slippery seaweed.	3	2	6
Tide-related danger / drowning	Student	Check tide times before going. Stay away from rising water or deep paddling. Avoid isolated rockpools.	5	1	5
Cuts from sharp objects or marine debris	Student	Do not touch or pick up sharp, broken, or unknown items. Bring a basic first aid kit.	3	1	3
Weather-related issues (sunburn, heatstroke, hypothermia)	Student	Dress for the weather. Bring water, sunscreen, hat or waterproofs depending on conditions.	3	1	3
Getting lost or stranded	Student	Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return. Stay in familiar or mapped areas.	4	1	4

Dog encounters or attacks	Student	Avoid approaching dogs. Stay calm and still. Move away slowly if uncomfortable.	3	1	3
Injury from climbing or rockpooling	Student	Do not climb sea walls or slippery rocks. Approach tidepools carefully.	2	2	4
Litter hazards (glass, needles)	Student	Avoid touching dangerous litter. Report to local authorities if needed.	3	1	3
Cliff edge or landslide risk	Student	Stay away from cliff bases and tops. Watch for warning signs and erosion.	5	1	5
Getting cut off by the tide	Student	Check tide times carefully. Avoid narrow inlets or sandbanks during rising tides.	5	2	10

Risk Level = Severity x Likelihood

Severity: 1 = Minor, 5 = Fatal

Likelihood: 1 = Rare, 5 = Certain

Risk Levels: 1-2 = Very Low, 3-6 = Low, 7-11 = Medium, 12-15 = High, 16-25 = Unacceptable