

BLUE REEF AQUARIUM , CLARENCE ESPLANADE, PORTSMOUTH

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR GROUP VISITS 2011 / 2012

As part of our Health and Safety Policy required under the Health and Safety at Work act 1974 and the Zoo Licensing Act 1981, Risk Assessments (RA'S) are carried out in regard to working areas and public access areas. Individual jobs have also been assessed. The presence of visitors is covered by our Public Liability insurance, which is renewed on the 1st November each year.

Group Leaders are invited to make a preview trip to prepare for their visits.

Group leaders are requested to adequately supervise or accompany children when on site.

First aid or medical attention

First aid is always available. First aid trained staff can be contacted via the front reception desk. A full first aid kit is located in the main office and is also available from zoological and/or the kitchen staff.

Lost Children

All till points are equipped with in-house communications systems and announcements can be made via our P.A system, which covers the full Aquarium.

Evacuation and Fire Drill

Staff are trained to deal with visitor evacuation in the event of a fire or bomb threat. Marked fire extinguishers are present in all zoological, retail and catering areas. Fire alarm 'break glass' panels are situated throughout the Aquarium. Fire alarm tests and inspections of fire fighting equipment are regularly carried out.

Emergency exits are clearly marked in regulation Green and White luminous signage.

Off Limit Areas

Working areas (no public access) are kept locked at all times. Chemical and veterinary substances on site are listed in COSHH sheets and securely stored away from the public.

Contact with the animals

Visitors are advised verbally and with written signage not to touch the animals. Hand washing facilities are available in the toilets should any visitor come into contact with any of the creatures.

It is important that the **group leaders** stress to the children the importance of washing hands after contact with any animal to reduce the likelihood of infection.

Outdoor Play Area

We have an outdoor play area which has stepping stones and a fountain water splash area. There is no standing water in this area, however group leaders should be aware that the fountains will be running most days. The group leaders are responsible for supervision of the children in this area at all times.

It is requested that the children are especially prevented from throwing stones from the gravelled areas. If the group would like to take advantage of the water play area the group leaders will be responsible for the supervision of the children at all times and should ensure that in the children do not behave in too boisterous a manner so as to risk injury.

For further information

Our Health and Safety Policy is available for consultation by arrangement. For more information or to arrange a preview trip please do not hesitate to contact us.