

Tutor/Assessor Resource 1.1

Day Walk Leadership – operating remit

Any person who has successfully completed the Level 3 Award in Day Walk Leadership should be deemed competent to train and lead parties in accordance with the criteria below.

The remit should be considered in its entirety when planning and executing a route.

No single statement should be used in isolation to justify the selection of a route.

General Scope

- Planning, preparation and supervision of single day journeys on foot in lowland terrain.
- The training of participants to undertake these activities.

Acceptable Terrain

- Low-lying rural countryside, farmland, valleys, woodland and small areas of forest.
- Lowland glens and valleys from which reliable access to communication or external assistance is feasible without undue delay and without reliance on any portable communications device.
- Gentle to moderate rolling terrain with no steep slopes to negotiate.

Out-of-Scope Areas and Terrain

- Remote sections of extensive lowland glens and valleys.
- Mountains, high hills, high level or remote moorland.
- Steep slopes where an inexperienced walker may feel intimidated or may require physical support or where a slip might result in a fall.
- Mountainous or rocky terrain which can be present at all altitudes.
- Areas or terrain that would specifically require the leader to hold an MLT Walking Group Leader Award or Mountain Leader Award.

Overriding Factors

- Temperate weather conditions should prevail throughout the expedition (see below).
- Routes should be contained within a clearly identifiable boundary system (for example, roads, vehicle tracks, walls, rivers) that would prevent a group from straying into out-of-scope areas in the event of a navigational error.
- Routes to be on well-defined paths and tracks which are marked on the map and which can be followed easily in poor visibility.
- Regular identifying features should exist to check route-finding accuracy.
- Routes along the tops of cliffs or outcrops should be a safe distance from the edge.
- Routes should normally cross water using footbridges. Stepping stones may only be used in exceptional circumstances providing the water is shallow and moving slowly. Entering the water is unacceptable.

Temperate Weather Conditions

Temperate weather implies an absence of extreme conditions to prevent a group from experiencing undue discomfort. However, sensible decisions can only be taken in relation to age, experience, physical fitness and the quality of clothing worn. Decisions will need to take account of temperature, wind strength and intensity of rainfall. It will also be necessary to consider the worsening effects of combinations of these phenomena.

Whilst the award is not intended for use in winter conditions, a thin skimming of snow or an occasional small patch of snow is acceptable providing the snow is melting and a slip could not result in a downhill slide.