

Risk Assessment – Shop Visits

Area of Operation: walks to the local shops and shopping centres

Who is at risk?

- Staff
- Students
- Members of the public

Hazards	Risks	Safety Measures to Control Risks
Stranger Danger	Risk of inappropriate approaches or abduction attempts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff remain in close proximity to the student(s) at all times. ○ Use of buddy system and assigned staff to individual or small groups. ○ Staff ensure student know who to approach if separated. ○ Meeting points clearly identified and communicated to all participants.
Anti-social or challenging behaviour	Risk of conflict, injury, or public disturbance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Only calm and suitable student participate, as assessed by staff. ○ Staff review expectations and behaviour boundaries in advance. ○ High staff-to-child ratio for close monitoring and deescalation support. ○ Staff are familiar with student's individual risk and behaviour plans.
Absconding or separation	Risk of student running off or becoming lost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staffing ratio appropriate to the needs of the child and environment. ○ Boundaries are clearly explained before the visit. ○ Student reminded regularly to stay with staff/group. ○ Staff maintain headcounts and carry mobile phones for quick coordination. ○ Exit points observed; staff positioned strategically.
Theft or damage to property	Risk of student shoplifting or damaging items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discuss respect for property and rules of conduct in public spaces. ○ Staff to supervise closely in shops and high-risk areas. ○ Only enter age-appropriate or approved shops. ○ Intervene calmly and manage any incidents discreetly.

Hazards	Risks	Safety Measures to Control Risks
Use of public toilets	Risk of separation or unsafe interactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff assess toilets in advance and monitor usage. ○ Student only use facilities when supervised or accompanied if required. ○ Pre-arranged meeting points used in case of accidental separation. ○ Staff remain discreet and respectful while ensuring safety.

To be read in conjunction with the following:

- Student's Risk Assessments
- Participant Consent / Medical Information
- Emergency Action Plan Flow-Chart

Reviewed: September 2025

Approved by: **RAISE-AP** Educational Directors, September 2025

Next Review Date: September 2027