

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

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

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