



Risk Assessment Form: SEA LIFE*

About SEA LIFE

Combining active, hands-on learning with fascinating educational talks and an opportunity to have an up close and personal encounter with a variety of sea creatures, a visit to SEA LIFE is an educational experience like no other! SEA LIFE caters for every ability level and learning style, using a unique combination of auditory, visual and kinaesthetic learning opportunities. Children are encouraged to have supervised, hands-on contact with live sea creatures in the touch pool which is often the highlight of the trip for many children.

About Merlin

Merlin Entertainments Group is the leading name in location based, quality family entertainment. Now the world's number two visitor attraction operator, it aims to deliver unique, memorable and rewarding experiences to its 30 million visitors worldwide, through its iconic global and local brands, and the commitment and passion of its managers and employees. Merlin has over 50 attractions, in 12 countries, across three continents - Europe, North America and Asia - and employs over 13,000 staff.

Legal Requirements and Attraction Information

Public Liability	SEA LIFE centres and Sanctuaries are covered by Public Liability Insurance to the amount of £10 million. The Policy is with ACE European Group Ltd (Policy No UKCANC33447)
Local Enforcement Agency	SEA LIFE and Sanctuaries are enforced by the local Health and Safety Executive and Environmental Health Department. Please contact the Health and Safety officer of the SEA LIFE or Sanctuary you require for further information.
Rides Engineering / Maintenance	Weymouth has 5 rides plus the Tower. Oban has Boat Trips (as of 2013). Brighton has the Glass Bottom Boat. Gweek has the Land Train. All are operated and maintained according to their individual regulations.
Food Safety and Hygiene	Food units are operated in accordance with the Food Safety Act 1990 and are regularly inspected by the local Environmental Health Department.
Attraction Staff / Staff identification	All attraction staff wear uniforms and name badges for easy identification. A policy exists for all new staff to have criminal record checks.
Security	The attraction has a dedicated security team who are able to deal with minor security issues on site. The team is also trained to deal with emergency incidents that may arise.

Risk Assessment

Vehicle traffic	There are designated drop-off points for coaches at SEA LIFE centres and Sanctuaries and there is no requirement for children to cross any busy public roads. Please contact the Health and Safety officer of the SEA LIFE or Sanctuary you require for further information.
Weather protection / Sun safety	For centres that are outdoors please dress for the changeable British weather. For specific information about weather protection, please contact the Health and Safety Officer of the SEA LIFE or Sanctuary you require.
Water	There are display tanks throughout the different attractions and also touch pools; supervision is required at all times.
Slips/ Trips/ Falls	The following hazards should be noted:

	Trips caused by looking in the display and not at the floor Wet flooring Steps and stairs
High level areas	Supervision is required and there is no climbing on the barriers.
Strobe lighting	N/A
Reduced lighting	Care should be taken due to reduced lighting in certain areas.
Enclosed spaces	Some parts of the attractions could make individuals feel confined due to being dark, warm and humid. However there are no areas in the attraction that can be defined as a confined space.
Specific Attraction risk	Creatures, stings and bites: Do not place hands into any of the display tanks. All visitors must wash their hands if they have contact with any creatures or water. Extra care is required for children sensitive to this environment.
Door entrapment	Beware of closing doors on fingers etc.
Rides	See before – Follow operator instructions and safety rules. Do not enter ride area whilst ride is moving.
Soft play areas / Play equipment	All safety rules should be followed, particularly play area capacity rule.

Attraction Arrangements

Arrival arrangements	Please contact the SEA LIFE or Sanctuary you require.
Parking	Parking is specific to each venue. Please contact the SEA LIFE or Sanctuary you require.
First aid	There are medical / first aid facilities which are operated by a dedicated team of qualified first aiders
Emergency planning	This attraction has a contingency plan in the event of an emergency. The emergency plan has been developed in conjunction with the local emergency services and there are regular meetings regarding emergency procedures.
Fire safety	In the event of an emergency please follow all evacuation procedures.
Wheelchair access	Please contact the SEA LIFE or Sanctuary you require for information.
Lost children	Children should approach a member of staff if they are lost. The specific location of the lost children's collection point varies at each venue. Please contact the SEA LIFE or Sanctuary you require.
Unruly children	The attraction has regulations displayed at the entrance. Staff are trained to enforce these regulations for the benefit of all guests. Staff will instruct children to behave where necessary. Children should be supervised by an adult at all times.
Age / height restrictions	Rides and soft play areas may have age and or height restrictions. Please refer to signage located at the ride.

	Children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult (persons over the age of 18) in the attraction.
Lockers / storage facilities	Please contact the Health and Safety officer of the SEA LIFE or Sanctuary you require for further information.
Eating facilities	There are food and drink establishments within the attraction serving a variety of hot and cold meals / drinks and there are also picnicking facilities. However, please note that facilities vary between each venue. Please contact the Health and Safety officer of the SEA LIFE or Sanctuary you require.
Welfare facilities	Toilets are located at various locations in the attraction. These are clearly sign-posted.
Additional costs	There are vending machines, cafes, shops and coin operated rides available on site.
Attraction signposting	All SEA LIFE centres are well sign-posted and a comprehensive map is distributed free of charge on entry.

* The information / hazards have been identified as being inherent to the majority of SEA LIFE centres and Sanctuaries.

The purpose of this document is to enable schools / groups to use the information provided for the development of visit risk assessments in order to satisfy the obligations placed by the Health and Safety at Work Act and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations. The above hazards have been identified as being inherent to this attraction. Merlin Entertainments Group Ltd does not accept liability for any omissions to this list. Control measures indicated are recommendations only and must be adapted / amended by group organisers. Please ensure adequate supervisors are appointed for the number in your group. If visiting as a school, we recommend the school do their own risk assessment prior to the visit.

