

RISK ASSESSMENT

VEX IQ Robotics Competition - Regional Qualifier Gateshead Regional Saturday 10th January 2026

HAZARD RATING (Potential to cause harm without control measures)		
Rating	Description	Potential Outcome
High	Major	Major Injury, permanent disability or Ill Health
Medium	Severe	Injury requiring medical treatment
Low	Minor	First aid treatment required

RISK RATING (Possibility of harm after application of control measures)		
Rating	Description	Probable Outcome
High	Probable	Occurs repeatedly, is an event that is to be expected, or could affect a large number of people.
Medium	Possible	Could occur sometime or could affect a few people.
Low	Remote	Unlikely to occur, though conceivable, or not many people likely to be affected.

Work activity / task: <i>Teams brought to Whickham School by parents or staff, to compete in a Robotics Competition during the day.</i>							
Persons affected: Staff, Students and Visitors to the Regional qualifier for VEX IQ Competition Robotics.							
Hazards	Hazard rating H / M / L	Existing Control Measures	Risk rating H / M / L	Recommendations	Revised risk rating H / M / L	Action by	Date complete
Car park and outside space.	L	Teams transport to be parked in an available parking bay. Teachers/Adults responsible for students and adults leaving transport and walking to School Entrance.	L	Adults to supervise pupils at all times. Venue discretion regarding limiting available outside space for teams.			
Trip hazard from cables.	L	All cables will taped down or cable tied.	L				
Toilets.	L	Designated Children and Adult toilets provided by venue, unless stated in Drivers Briefing.	L	Adults to supervise their children.			
Competition field stability for staff and visitors	L	Game perimeter to be correctly installed and secure, hazard tape on floor.	L				

Electrical appliances	L	There will be charging points to be used by staff only to plug in their robot batteries using extension cables if needed. Student helpers will be shown this area and safety will be discussed when they arrive on the stand. All cables are PAT Tested, as required.	L	Charge points labelled and described in Driver Briefing. Fair and appropriate use by all required. All equipment to have team numbers labelled.			
Storage of packaging, material, and equipment.	L	This will be kept safely and securely away from visitor to minimise any hazards.	L				
VEX robots and a work area where robots will be restored/fixed when necessary.	L	Robots will be contained in a 8'x6' on a non-slip surface field area. The work area will be manned by a teacher/student helper at all times. Robots will also be used on the larger competition fields, but again will be monitored by staff.	L				
Fire precautions for staff and visitors	L	Briefing in morning for systems already on place.	L				
Team Pit area	L	Teams will have allocated Pit area; this will have seating. Possible trip hazards.	L	Adults to supervise and ensure walkways and pit areas are kept tidy to avoid trip hazards.			
Lone working	L	None	L	Pupils to be always supervised. Judges, if used, will not be in a lone working situation. Code of Conduct applies.			
Child visitors using the robotic controllers to operate the Robots.	L	Monitored by student helps and DBS checked teachers and adults, depending upon venue requirements.	L				

Persons/Students with Special Needs	L	Monitored by staff and they should be accompanied by carer/teacher.	L			
Handling of Robots, Competition Field and Equipment.	L	Trolley brought to show, competition in manageable packages.	L	Empty boxes to be stored away from visitors. Teams to solve their own logistics for transfer from transport to pit area.		
First Aid requirements	L	First Aider on site	L	Schools or parents with have medical issues mitigated with their own risk assessment. Michael Nelson, EP, is an qualified first aider.		
Publicity material – Pull ups and Banners	L	Secured to best available fixing points.	L			

Comments

Date of Assessment ____02/09/25____ Assessed by Michael Nelson Date of next Assessment 1st July 2026