



## Risk Assessment – Pond Dipping

Produced By:	N Senior	Date of Issue:	11/2/19	Review Date:	1/9/24
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### Operating Notes:

- Supervision ratio is 1 instructor to 1 class plus one additional instructor nearby. There is no requirement for an additional adult.
- Instructor to be trained to in-house syllabus. Refresher training as directed by session observations.
- Pond dipping is usually done in the purpose-built pond area which has a platform and shelter

**Risk – Benefit Statement:** Learning how to stay safe around bodies of water and be inspired by this habitat and its' amazing creatures.

Hazard Description and activities giving rise to risk	Who may be harmed	Control Measures	Risk Rating
Water borne diseases <b>Contact with pond water</b>	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils told not to put their hands in their mouths</li> <li>• Pupils told to wash their hands with warm soapy water after dipping</li> <li>• People with open cuts or sores on hands or arms told to observe and identify but not come into contact with pond water</li> </ul>	low
drowning <b>water</b>	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils will be insight of adults at all times</li> <li>• Suitable places to dip will be explained</li> <li>• Number of nets will be restricted so areas don't become over crowded</li> <li>• Pupils without nets wait their turn away from the water's edge</li> <li>• Pupils will be told to walk in the dipping area</li> <li>• Pupils not complying to rules will sit out</li> <li>• Instructor will show safe stance and dipping techniques, don't over reach</li> <li>• Pupils on platform kneel with one knee up</li> </ul>	medium

Risk Matrix	Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely Harmful
Unlikely	Low	Low	Medium
Likely	Low	Medium	High
Highly likely	Medium	High	High



Hurting or unbalancing other pupils with pole of fish net <b>Handling nets</b>	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils will be reminded that nets have long poles so be aware of where your classmates are</li> </ul>	low
<b>First Aid emergencies</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take first aid kit</li> <li>Take radio</li> </ul>	
<b>Weather Conditions</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The lead instructor will review the risk assessment in view of the weather on the day.</li> <li>The instructor will amend activity if ongoing changing weather conditions effect risks</li> </ul>	
<b>POND DIPPING ON THE NATURE RESERVE</b>			
<b>(Although pupils normally dip in the fenced off pond next to the centre occasionally, they might dip on the reserve, if this is to be the case the following additional risk assessments would apply)</b>			
<b>Dogs &amp; Public</b>	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructor leads the way, pupils walk behind, with member of staff at end of line</li> <li>Pupils told not to talk to public</li> <li>Pupils told not to stroke dogs, we stand still &amp; wait for owner to put dog on lead</li> </ul>	low
Trips Slips and falls <b>Walking on the reserve</b>	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The importance of walking carefully will be made explicit as some of the pupils will be carrying equipment to the pond where we dip</li> <li>Hazards such as hills, rabbit holes, roots, nettles, brambles and over hanging branches will be pointed out</li> </ul>	low
Traffic accident <b>Crossing the Haul Road</b>	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The haul road is used by sand lorries and heavy plant machinery going to the working sand quarry. Instructors will stop pupils at a safe distance before the road. Listen and look for vehicles and escort pupils across whilst standing themselves in the middle of the road. High vis tabards are available on request.</li> <li>Instructors will use the safe crossing places</li> <li>Although traffic is infrequent on this road it is big and in dry weather creates a cloud of dust so stand well back from any traffic</li> </ul>	low

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