

## Health & Safety Risk Assessment for River Study and Pond Dipping.

**CHILDREN AND STAFF WILL NEED TO BRING WELLINGTONS BOOTS IF PARTICIPATING IN A RIVER STUDY**

<b>River Study and Pond Dipping.</b>						
Hazard/Risk	Who could be affected by hazard.	Likelihood of being affected	Worst consequence of being affected	Risk Level	How hazard/risk is mitigated	Residual risk level
Individual washed off feet, washed away by river water or fall into water resulting in drowning or physical injury due to fall or time in water.	FST VSA VC	1	75	75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FST to check water levels in river, moat or lake prior to activity to ensure that the river level and discharge is safe.</li> <li>• FST to ensure full safety briefing given to VC/VSA prior to activity, FST to use the 'Water Safety Sheet' kept on file in River Study drawer as basis for briefing.</li> <li>• FST to physically check the stretch of water by wading before any VC/VSA enters the water.</li> <li>• FST to establish safe and sensible boundaries for the activity. These should be monitored at all times by FST/VSA to ensure group in visual contact at all times.</li> <li>• FST to carry throw line at all times whilst close to river, moat or lake. Staff training to be provided in use of throw line.</li> <li>• FST to ensure that a centre car is kept at Kingcombe for the duration of river work.</li> <li>• FST to ensure mobile phone to be taken to river bank for emergency use.</li> <li>• VSA to be responsible for no more than 10 VC to ensure suitable supervision of group.</li> <li>• FST to warn against 'over reaching' on bank to reach something in the water.</li> <li>• FST to warn VSA/VC against pushing and running on the river, moat or lake bank.</li> </ul>	LOW

Hazard/Risk	Who could be affected by hazard.	Likelihood of being affected	Worst consequence of being affected	Risk Level	How hazard/risk is mitigated	Residual risk level
Infection in new or existing wound from river, moat or lake water.	FST VSA VC	2	10	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FST to warn of danger and provide surgical gloves and waterproof plasters to protect existing or new injuries.</li> <li>FST to ensure first Aid kit taken on activity by VSA and that kit has sufficient supplies to cater for size group.</li> <li>FST to remind all VSA VC to wash hands with soap and hot water after activity or before any food is handled.</li> </ul>	LOW
Stomach upset, virus or disease caused by contact with river, moat or lake water.	FST VSA VC	1	75	75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FST to warn of danger to group if they don't follow simple safety guidelines. To include not putting fingers into mouth, chewing pencils etc.</li> <li>FST/VSA to ensure VC do not splash water whilst in or around fieldwork site.</li> <li>FST/VSA/VC to wash hands with soap and hot water after activity.</li> </ul>	LOW
Injury caused by sharp ends on ranging poles, nets, rules, hedges, brambles or bushes.	FST VSA VC	2	20	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FST to warn of dangers moving around lanes and countryside.</li> <li>Ranging poles to be carried in vertical position never used as spear, javelin or walking stick.</li> <li>VC should never run with any equipment.</li> <li>FST to warn against swinging or throwing nets at fish or water wildlife.</li> </ul>	LOW

Hazard/Risk	Who	Likelihood	Worst	Risk	How hazard/risk is mitigated	Residual
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	could be affected by hazard.	of being affected	consequence of being affected	Level		risk level
Collision with car or other vehicle on route to fieldwork site or on return journey to centre.	FST VSA VC	1	75	75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FST to warn of dangers involved in walking along the road.</li> <li>• FST establish system of signaling when a car is coming, e.g. a loud whistle blast, and instruct VSA/VC on routine. All to step to side of the road, face the traffic and wait until it has passed.</li> <li>• FST to ensure that a VSA or FST is positioned at the back and front of the group to signal when car is coming. They should also be wearing high visibility jacket.</li> <li>• FST to ensure group is all on the same side of the road, and change sides of the road at blind spots on corners.</li> <li>• FST/VSA to ensure that VC walk in single file along the road.</li> </ul>	LOW

Review Date: January 2026

Next Review Date : January 2027