



Bradford Peverell, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 9SD

Activity Specific Risk Benefit Assessment - River Study/Seashore Exploration/Pond Dipping Activities & General Water

Risks

This risk benefit assessment is to be read in conjunction with the 'Dynamic & Generic' risk assessment.

This risk benefit assessment covers, pond dipping, river studies and any visits to any of the coastal locations that we use.

Risk Benefit Assessment Completed By: MCD		Date of last update: September 2023	
		Review date before: September 2024	
Risk	Who might be affected	How risk is controlled	Overall risk rating: L/M/H
Falling into water	Staff + pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water levels to be assessed by New Barn Staff before each activity. All safety rules are agreed with the group prior to activity. Ensure group understands activity and have been given clear, understandable and appropriate instructions. Alert group to potential hazards in introduction talk. Throw line/life ring always available. Weather conditions and forecast will be assessed, in regard to slippery riverbanks during and after periods of rain. Rivers etc only crossed using bridges. Alert group to be aware of steeply shelving shingle beaches. When at Poole Harbour pupils will walk on the landside of the harbour side white line. When aboard the Brownsea Ferry groups must abide by the ferry company's rules and instructions. There is a rope across the pond platform to stop pupils wandering onto the dipping area. There are no more than 6 children on the dipping area at any one time. Pupils must kneel while pond dipping. No moving around on the platform whilst pond dipping. Attention is drawn to the end of the net to avoid prodding/poking injuries. 	L
Tides & Sudden	Staff +	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tidal conditions are always checked before groups go onto any beach or coastal area. 	M



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increases in water flow	pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timings and exit routes from all coastal areas are to be checked prior to the group arriving. • Weather conditions and forecast will be assessed, regarding rising level of water meadows and the River Frome or the effect of storms and strong wind on the coast. • Groups must abide by risk assessments and local knowledge provided by sites such as Charmouth, Lulworth Cove & Studland Beach. 	
Lost Person	Staff + Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set physical boundaries beyond which the group should not venture, and brief them clearly. • Establish a base to which members of the group may return if separated. • Carry out regular head counts. • Take up best positions from which to exercise constant vigilance. • Divide watching between staff that stand by the shoreline/riverbank looking landward, staff on the beach/land looking sea/riverward. • Ensure watching staff are constantly vigilant. 	L
Paddling in River Frome as Part of The River Study	Pupils & Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure group understands the activity and have been given clear, understandable and appropriate instructions. • Alert group to potential hazards in introduction talk. • Agree the safety rules prior to the activity starting. • Ensure every group understands that pushing; dragging and attempted ducking is unsafe and not allowed. • The group will enter the water at identified sections of the stream bank. • Weather and forecasts will be considered before the activity starts. • If wellingtons are worn ensure the group are made aware that boots can fill with water and make it difficult to move quickly. 	L
Swimming/Paddling difficulties at the beach	Pupils & Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Swimming and paddling are never allowed as an impromptu activity.</u> Schools must carry out their own risk assessment prior to visiting if they wish to include a formal and supervised paddle/swim. The school will remain responsible for the swimming/ paddling session. 	<u>M</u>
Injuries and infections	Pupils & Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The stream bed will be checked for underwater hazards prior to any member of the group walking into the stream. • All open wounds must be cleaned and covered immediately. • Avoid any unnecessary contact with suspect flotsam, jetsam and rubbish. • Hands should be washed thoroughly before eating and/or drinking. • Avoid weed covered areas and wet rocks. • Demonstrate techniques for moving safely over difficult ground. 	L