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| **Assessor** | Jennie Denton | **Assessment date** | 11/12/2024 | **Approved by:**  | Claire Garrity | **Review date:**  | 11/12/25 |
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| **Task hazard –** potential for harm to persons and/or property | **Who’s at risk** | **Precautions –** to reduce risk levels | **Risk level** (see below) - after precautions have been taken | **Person responsible –** for ensuring precautions are taken  |

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| **Pond area - general**Cuts, scratches, splinters, stings etc | All | **Pre-dip checks*** Ensure pond area is checked beforehand: check water level
* Nettles and brambles – remove /cut
* Check for litter etc.
 | Likely x slight harm = slight | GWT team leaders |
| **Slippery pond edges**Injury / shock from slipping at pond edge or into pondDrowning | All | * Check pond edge before activity to ensure no slip/trip hazards
* Correct ratio of adult / child for age group – high level of supervision
* Group to walk to pond area behind GWT staff / volunteer
* Group stop before reaching the pond where instructions and rules for safe dipping are given. Demo how to use the nets etc. at pond. (see below)
* Children work in subgroups and only certain children from each subgroup in pond edge/platform at any one time under adult supervision with the rest in group work areas set back from the pond edge.
* Children and adults made aware of where the water’s edge is (even if obviously apparent) and reminded at regular intervals.
* Cones will be used if the edge of the pond is obscured by vegetation such as reeds. Other dangers in the pond area will be marked with cones.
* GWT staff to maintain overall supervision and not work with individual groups. School leaders/adults to supervise groups away from pond
* No one to enter the water/walk or jump into the pond
 | Unlikely x harmful = slightUnlikely x very harmful = moderate | GWT teamSchool leaderschildren |
| **Slips and trips** | All | * Children to dip kneeling at pond edge/on platform (RWH)
* Child to be accompanied by a GWT adult.
* Leader to demonstrate how to dip.
* Max 6 children dipping with adult at one time (reduce number of children dipping at a time as appropriate for younger groups).
* School children to be Year 1 and above to dip at the pond.
* Others watching stand well back from the pond edge.
* Group to stay in one area away from pond when looking at their catch
* Keep equipment away from pond edge.
 | Unlikely x harmful = slight | GWT teamSchool leaders |
| **Nets and equipment**Bruising from being hit by netTripping over net/equipmentNet too big for small children to handle | All | * Demonstrate how to walk sensibly and carefully with net
* Demo how to use the net correctly at the pond
* Use an appropriately sized net.
* Warn children to keep their distance from each other to avoid injuring anyone with a net/other equipment
* Adequate supervision
* Programme bookable for children of a certain age to avoid small children at pond
 | Likely x slight harm = slight | GWT teamSchool leaders |
| **Inappropriate footwear**Wet, cold feet | All | * All to wear appropriate clothing for the weather/activity.
* Wellies/sturdy trainers for dipping.
* Children are not wading into the water
* Change of footwear for after activity if get wet
 | Likely x slight harm = slight | GWT teamSchool leadersParent/guardians |
| **Leptospirosis (Weil’s disease)**Illness, death | All | * Groups instructed not to put their hands near their faces (eyes, mouth, nose).
* Gloves or waterproof plasters provided if open cuts (group leaders check hands and arms of group members on instruction from GWT staff / vol)
* School staff to ensure GWT staff know if children have latex / plaster allergies (if so, children may not be able to dip in river)
* Wash hands thoroughly in soap at end of session
* Information on leptospirosis - website references for further info provided on generic school visit task risk assessment. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/leptospirosis/>
 | Unlikely x very harmful = moderate | GWT teamSchool leadersParent/guardians |
| **Litter**Broken bottles and sharp cans | All | * Area will be litter picked ahead of visit.
* Everyone to be aware of public access and the potential for hidden sharp objects in undergrowth and to be observant.
* Central area grass to be kept short.
 | Unlikely after precautions taken. | GWT teamSchool leadersParent/guardiansChildren |
| **See below: only relevant if groups are entering the pond. \*School groups will not be entering the water/pond at Robinswood Hill or Greystones Farm** |
| ***Biosecurity****Risk of transference of waterborne biohazards such bacteria and viruses to another site.**Risk of serious illness if ingested.**Risk of damage to the aquatic environment if solution is not disposed of correctly.* | *All* | * *All Ideally arrive with clean/dry wellies.*
* *Wellies/waders are checked, brushed out if muddy and sprayed with Virkon Aquatic (ie. aquatic disinfectant solution) before and after entering the water – as appropriate.*
* *GWT staff will spray the wellies.*
* *Equipment* ***shared*** *between sites will be cleaned immediately before/after the session.*
* *Each site (with a pond or river study session) will ideally have its own kit. E.g. nets, trays etc*
* *Solution will be disposed of appropriately.*
 | *Unlikely and very harmful =* ***Moderate****Managed to* ***slight*** | *GWT staff advise school to arrive with clean, dry wellies.* |

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| **PPE required:** Gloves, Litter picker, Hand washing equipment, Hand sanitizer, Disinfectant wipes, Mobile phone |
| **PPE required –** Latex free gloves and waterproof plasters for river dipping (to cover open cuts) – school staff to ensure GWT staff are informed of plaster / latex allergies, a personal first aid kit must be carried  |
| **Other info** |
| mobile phone, sanitiser |