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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 pond  Drowning | 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 = slight  Unlikely x very harmful = moderate | GWT team  School leaders  children |
| **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 team  School leaders |
| **Nets and equipment**  Bruising from being hit by net  Tripping over net/equipment  Net 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 team  School 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 team  School leaders  Parent/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 team  School leaders  Parent/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 team  School leaders  Parent/guardians  Children |
| **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 |