



The Ernest Cook Trust – Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership – Site Risk Assessment



Activity: Pond dipping				Compiled by and date:	AC 19/11/19	Checked by:	EC 08/19
Site/Location: Any school ground, nature reserve, community space				Reviewed by and date: AC 05/01/2022			
Who is at risk:	Participants? Yes	Group Leaders? Yes	Staff? Yes	Other relevant risk assessments:	Location Risk Assessment		

Hazard	Risk Rating		Control measure (reference to other relevant documents)	Residual Risk	
	Likelihood	Severity		Likelihood	Severity
Drowning or injury due to immersion in water	M	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throw-line carried by ECT staff. • Clear safety briefing given at the start of the session and participants made aware of the lack of barrier at the water's edge. • Participants instructed to remain at a distance from the water's edge unless using the pond dipping station. • Participants supervised by visiting adults at a ratio appropriate to the age and experience of the group. • Behaviour monitored and managed by visiting adults throughout the session to encourage safe and sensible conduct. 	L	H
Waterborne infection - Hepatitis B, Leptospirosis, Tetanus, Algal infection, stomach infection etc.	M	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pond/river areas not used during times of blue-green algal bloom. • Participants instructed not to eat or put anything in to their mouths for the duration of the activity and to wash hands immediately after the session. • Existing cuts or abrasions covered by a waterproof dressing and disposable gloves where appropriate. • Participants developing flu-like symptoms following the pond-dipping session are advised to consult a doctor. 	L	H
Injury as a result of inappropriate use of equipment	L	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants given clear instructions on the appropriate and safe use of all equipment. • Equipment inspected and maintained in good working order by ECT staff and whoever owns the equipment. • Behaviour monitored and managed throughout the session to encourage safe and sensible conduct. • Participants supervised by visiting adults at a ratio appropriate to the age and experience of the group. 	L	L



Hazard	Risk Rating		Control measure (reference to other relevant documents)	Residual Risk	
	Likelihood	Severity		Likelihood	Severity
Slips, trips and falls	M	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pond area kept tidy and free from obstructions. • Pond dipping stations checked before use and maintained according to a regular schedule. • Group briefed at the beginning of the session to make aware of the risks from uneven ground, fallen tree debris and wet or slippery surfaces. • Behaviour monitored and managed by visiting adults throughout the session to encourage safe and sensible conduct. • Close adult supervision at all times. 	L	H
Illness or injury from plants/berries or contact with soil, fungi or animal faeces	M	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pond dipping stations kept clear of prickly and/or poisonous plants. • Group instructed not to eat or put any found items into their mouths, and not to touch fungi or animal faeces. • Existing cuts or abrasions should be covered by a dressing. • All participants instructed to clean hands thoroughly after the activity. 	L	M
Anaphylactic reaction to stings from wasps, bees, hornets etc. or bites from mosquitoes, horseflies, midges etc.	M	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visiting Group Leader to hold medical information for all participants and include allergy information when completing ECT Booking Form. Officer should be advised of any allergies on the day. • EpiPens or antihistamine medication must be carried either by the participant or an identified supervising adult when prescribed for any participant. • Medical advice sought if an unexpected reaction occurs in any participant. 	M	M
Ticks	M	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working areas kept free of long vegetation favored by ticks. • Participants advised to keep arms and legs covered. • Any person with a tick bite should be made aware of the possibility of Lyme Disease and seek medical advice on tick removal and aftereffects. 	L	M
Meeting unfamiliar adults/Unauthorised site access	M	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group made aware of ECT staff/contractors/other organisations working in the area and/or other groups using the same location. • ECT Officers clearly identifiable by uniform. • Access to areas used by visiting groups is limited; participants made aware where public access to a location is permitted. • Participants supervised by visiting adults at a ratio appropriate to the age and experience of the group. 	L	M