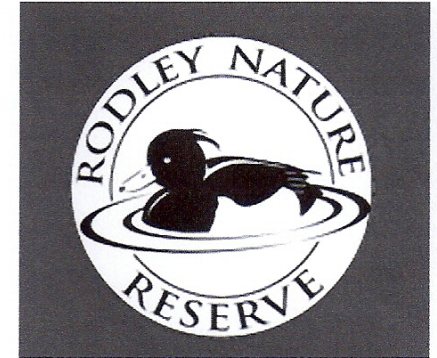


RODLEY NATURE RESERVE RISK ASSESSMENT

ACTIVITY Pond dipping for educational visits
ASSESSED BY Denese Swann, Maggie Bellwood
DATE January 2025
REVIEW DATE As required



SCOPE

This assessment is intended to mitigate risk to children, their staff and RNR volunteers attending pond dipping sessions during educational visits to Rodley Nature Reserve.

METHOD STATEMENT

Children and their supervising adults are accompanied to the ponds by RNR volunteers during educational visits.

Short handled nets, trays and ID sheets are issued from a locked box to groups and members are given a briefing as to safety and best dipping practice by RNR vols. A safety precautions

leaflet is also issued, and the group is asked to comply with its recommendations. No items are issued to unsupervised children.

A throw line and first aid kit is available. However schools and groups are expected to have their own kits including epi-pens and specific items for known issues within each cohort.

RNR volunteers will inspect ponds and their environments prior to each visit to ensure they are clear of trip hazards and that deck surfaces are not slippery.

ACTIVITY	HAZARD	EXISTING OR PLANNED MITIGATION	RESPONSIBILITY
Pond dipping	Slips, trips and falls	Inspect facility and note/clear any inherent trip hazards and/or slippery surfaces	RNR
		Keep site tidy and clear of any personal belongings, unused nets and trays etc at all times	ALL
		Sensible footwear providing a firm grip must be worn	SCHOOL
		Movement around the dipping area must not be rushed and kept under control	ALL
		Dipping Team must commence session with Safety Talk based on this Risk Assessment	RNR

ACTIVITY	HAZARD	EXISTING OR PLANNED MITIGATION	RESPONSIBILITY
	Drowning	<p>Students must be supervised at all times – supervision/student ratio to be appropriate to the level/age of students</p> <p>Warning notice with depth indicator to be displayed at the Pond</p> <p>Throw line to be available for emergency purposes – Dipping Team to ensure line is available and know how to use prior to commencement of session</p>	<p>School/Group staff</p> <p>RNR</p> <p>RNR</p>
	Personal injury from misuse of equipment	<p>Limit number of children in group to manageable level and no more than 10 at any one time</p> <p>Space out students to prevent clashes</p> <p>Students to be supervised at all times whilst dipping</p> <p>Dipping Team to demonstrate correct use of nets prior to session commencing</p>	<p>RNR/School/group staff</p> <p>School/group staff</p> <p>RNR</p>

ACTIVITY	HAZARD	EXISTING OR PLANNED MITIGATION	RESPONSIBILITY
	Water borne micro-organisms	<p>Dipping Team must ensure any existing cuts or abrasions are covered and waterproofed prior to dipping (School/group leader to carry out if needed)</p> <p>Wash/sanitise hands immediately after dipping and before eating or drinking</p> <p>Under no circumstances must pond water be used for hand cleaning purposes</p> <p>Dipping Team to ensure any cuts or abrasions received are washed and covered immediately (School Leader to carry out if needed)</p> <p>First Aid Kit to be available at the Visitor Centre and groups to have their own with them</p>	<p>RNR</p> <p>School/group staff</p> <p>RNR</p> <p>RNR</p> <p>RNR/school/group</p>
	<p>Weather: Lightning Strike</p> <p>Sunstroke/Burning</p> <p>Dehydration</p>	<p>In the event of a thunder storm, session to cease immediately and site occupants vacated to a safe area</p> <p>In the event of sun, effective head protection and sun block cream must be used</p> <p>In the event of extreme sun/temperature conditions, sessions must be of an appropriate duration to prevent sunstroke/burning/dehydration</p>	<p>RNR</p> <p>School/group staff</p> <p>RNR</p>

ACTIVITY	HAZARD	EXISTING OR PLANNED MITIGATION	RESPONSIBILITY
	Insect stings and bites	Ensure participants with known allergies to insect bites wear full arm covering and appropriate insect repellent	School/group staff