

RISK ASSESSMENT - River Wensum/Castle Farm, Swanton Morley

DATE CARRIED OUT: March 2024. Risk Assessor: Nigel Syder



HAZARD	WHO MIGHT BE HARMED	HOW MAY THE RISK BE ADEQUATELY CONTROLLED	WHAT FURTHER ACTION MAY BE REQUIRED?	Review comments / review date
WORKING FARM – FARM MACHINERY, LIVESTOCK	Students Coaches Helpers/Parents	Use designated routes – car park to store – store to launch area.	Instructions given by coaches.	March 2025
MANUAL HANDLING - LIFTING AND CARRYING CANOES AND KAYAKS	Students Coaches Helpers/parents	Use recommended safe lifting and carrying techniques. Ask for help.	Demonstrations for beginners and new members. Use kayak trolley.	March 2025
SLIPS TRIPS AND FALLS	Students Coaches Helpers/Parents	Walk when carrying kayak/canoe to launch and landing area/riverbanks.	Coach to check suitability of launching/landing area and change location if necessary. Use of dynamic risk assessments.	March 2025
DROWNING	Students Coaches Observers	All participants to wear buoyancy aids. Coach to check buoyancy aids are fitted/worn correctly. Instruction in capsize procedures. Supervision for beginners. Advise to keep away from riverbank/water's edge.	Condition of buoyancy aids checked and tested annually. Induction sessions for beginners and new members. Use of dynamic risk assessments.	March 2025
CAPSIZE WITH ENTRAPMENT	Students Coaches	Coach to check equipment (boats and footwear) Instruction in capsize procedures. Coach to student ratio.	Refresher sessions within group for coaches. Use of dynamic risk assessments.	March 2025
CAPSIZE	Students Coaches	Boats fitted with sufficient buoyancy to float when capsized. Instruction in capsize procedures. Coaches trained in emptying boats and rescues.	Coach checks appropriate craft is used for water conditions. Coach checks appropriate activities used for group ability.	March 2025

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HYPOTHERMIA	Students Coaches	Session activities and clothing are appropriate to conditions.	Sessions cancelled if activities/ clothing are inappropriate to condition.	March 2025
IMPACT INJURY	Students Coaches	Coach to exercise appropriate control. Helmets to be worn when on the water.	Induction sessions for beginners and new members.	March 2025
WIND	Students Coaches	Session activities and clothing are appropriate to conditions.	Use of dynamic risk assessment. Session cancelled if conditions are inappropriate.	March 2025
INHERENT RISK; SPRAINS, STRAINS, AND SOFT TISSUE INJURIES.	Students Coaches Helpers/parents	Coaches' safety brief includes disclosure of risks and highlight hazards. Students to provide details of existing medical conditions. Coaches to warn students of exposure to sunlight.	Coach promotes safe paddling practice. Coach first aid qualification is in date. Coach carries first aid kit. Students and coaches to wear sunscreen and sunglasses.	March 2025
COLLISION	Students Coach	Group to be briefed about collision risk with third parties.	Use of dynamic risk assessment. Instruct students to group up to avoid collision.	March 2025
SITE SPECIFIC HAZARDS, WATER VOLUME, TREES, FENCES NEAR TO WATER EDGE, OBJECTS BELOW THE WATER SURFACE, SWANS, CATTLE ETC	Students Coaches	Keep single file when paddling around the island. Coach performs dynamic risk assessments. Coach refers to activity guidelines. Students advised how to negotiate around trees.	Instruct students to keep away from hazards. Portage to traverse hazard and relaunch. Continue activity in different location away from hazard.	March 2025

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CHANGES IN WATER CONDITIONS & MANMADE OBSTICLES UPSTREAM OF THE ISLAND	Students Coaches	Coach performs dynamic risk assessment. Coach refers to Activity Guidelines.	Instruct students to keep away from hazards. Portage to traverse hazard and relaunch. Continue activity in different location away from hazard.	March 2025
POLLUTION AND WATER QUALITY	Students Coaches	Advise to bathe soon after immersion. Made aware of flotsam.	Risk higher in spate conditions. Avoid intentional capsize in poor conditions.	March 2025
WEIRS AND MAN MADE FEATURES	Students Coaches	Helmets to be worn when paddling associated water.	Coach performs dynamic risk assessments. Appropriate skill and awareness training.	March 2025