

Activity	Who could be affected?	Hazard	Risk (low, medium, high)	Actions already taken to reduce risk	Further actions recommended/comments
Foraging	Students, staff and visitors	Injury	Medium	Injuries such as cuts could occur when using knives to cut plants. Knives are only to be handled by staff. When knives are not in use, they are to be kept out of reach of students. Stings or reaction to plants such as stinging nettles or brambles may occur when obtaining foraged plants, gloves should be worn when picking plants. Staff who are permitted to forage with students are Theo Langton and Alasdair Green.	Staff may forage for NAMED plants/nuts and berries only after being cleared to do so by Alasdair Green. No mushrooms to be foraged with students either on site or on off site activities.
		Allergies	Medium-High	When foraging, especially if the plant being used has not been eaten by the staff/student/visitor before, allergies may not be known. Students/staff/visitors allergy requirements are obtained on their first time on site and recorded on enrolment forms/in the staff folder. In the event of a severe allergic reaction, staff are to follow the emergency procedure and seek medical assistance as quickly as possible.	
		Intoxication/Poisoning	Medium - High	Students, staff and visitors are only permitted to eat plants identified as safe by the foraging activity leader,	

			either Theo Langton or Alasdair Green. Ingestion of unsafe plants could lead to intoxication if they contain psychoactive substances and/or symptoms of poisoning dependent on the toxin. Should students, staff or visitors ingest a plant thought to be intoxicating or poisonous, immediate medical attention will be sought.	
	Vermin/ contamination	Medium	As foraging will take place in environments such as the woods and fields, there is the risk that vermin excrement may have come into contact with the plant. Before ingesting, the area surrounding the plant should be checked for animal faeces or urine. Plants should be washed before being ingested by students, staff or visitors.	
	Animals/wildlife	Medium	When foraging in the woods and fields, wildlife may be present. Wildlife should not be approached or disturbed. Wildlife should not be handled.	
	Mis- identification of plants	High	Staff who lead foraging activities are trained and have experience with the activity. It is advised that foraging guides are taken with them when completing foraging activities. If a plant can't be identified as safe or there is any element of doubt, then	

			it is not permitted to be cut or foraged.	
	Slips, trips, falls	Medium	The terrain in the fields and woods can be slippery and uneven, walking boots or wellies should be worn by students/staff/visitors engaged in the activity. Foraging down the river banks is not permitted. Ground conditions will be checked by the activity leader prior to the activity taking place.	
	Weather	Medium	Foraging will not take place in adverse and inclement weather such as heavy rain. In dry, hot weather, sun cream, water and sun hats are advised.	

Signed: *Alasdair Green* (Education Manager)

Name: Alasdair Green

Date: 29/9/25

Review Date: September 2026