

Activity	Who could be affected?	Hazard	Risk (low, medium, high)	Actions already taken to reduce risk	Further actions recommended/comments
River depth and speed	Students, staff and visitors	Injury	Medium	Students and visitors are not allowed down to the river unattended. The river depth and speed will be assessed by Alasdair Green each morning and whether the river can be crossed/used for activities will be disseminated in the morning staff meeting with mentors. If the river current is too strong, students/staff/visitors could get knocked over, injuring themselves on the substrate on the riverbed or on driftwood found in and around the river. There is a safety ring and rope available at river camp.	Should river conditions change throughout the day, updates will be provided by Alasdair Green or other manager on site via the walkie-talkie system all staff has access to. Any staff who are unsure about the safety status of the river are to check with Alasdair Green or other manager on site before commencing in any river based activity. A red flag will be placed at the gate used to access the river should the river be deemed inaccessible.
		Drowning	Medium-High	Students and visitors are not allowed down to the river unattended. The river depth and speed will be assessed by Alasdair Green each morning and whether the river can be crossed/used for activities will be disseminated in the morning staff meeting with mentors. Students, staff and visitors are not to enter the lower field if the river has been assessed as too deep or the current too strong. Should anyone enter the river when the current is too strong	Should river conditions change throughout the day, updates will be provided by Alasdair Green or other manager on site via the walkie-talkie system all staff has access to. Any staff who are unsure about the safety status of the river are to check with Alasdair Green before commencing in any river based activity. A red flag will be placed at the gate used to access the river

			or it is too deep, students/staff/visitors could get knocked over and if they can not swim or if the current is too strong for them to swim in this could lead to drowning and/or inhalation of water. There is a safety ring and rescue rope available at river camp.	should the river be deemed inaccessible.
	Water bourn infections	Low	Students, staff and visitors are not to drink the river water. Wild animals and livestock are housed near the river, using it as a water source and there could be excrement entering the water from animal waste. The river water may also contain parasites and micro-organisms such as bacteria that could cause illness. There is potential for zoonotic diseases to be passed from animals, to the staff, students and visitors around the river. Should staff/students/visitors ingest water from the river, their mouth will be rinsed with clean water and they will be monitored for signs of illness such as nausea, stomach pain, temperature, sweating. Should river water enter any open wounds, the wound will be flushed thoroughly with saline solution and monitored for signs of infection.	If illness develops seek immediate medical assistance.

		Animals entering the river	Medium	Wild animals may use the river as a water source and have the potential to pass on zoonotic diseases as discussed above. Deceased animals may also enter the river and become entangled in the river bank or submerged, decomposing and releasing effluent into the river. Where possible, carcasses will be removed and appropriately disposed of.	
		Torrential Rainfall	Medium	The depth of the river has been observed to increase following torrential rain, as the water runs off the valley. As this association is known, Alasdair Green or other manager on site will recall students/staff/visitors from the big woods in adverse weather to ensure a safe river crossing.	Students/staff/visitors not permitted to cross river to get to big woods in torrential rain.
River banks	Students, staff and visitors	Injury	Medium	In some areas, the river banks are quite steep and could cause spinal, head or limb injuries should a member of staff/student/visitor slip or fall down them. No one is allowed by the river unattended and should not be within 1m of the river bank.	
		Slips, trips and falls	Medium	The ground surrounding the river can be uneven and therefore could cause staff, students or visitor to slip, trip or fall. Staff/students/visitors are only allowed down to the river wearing suitable sturdy footwear including	

				trainers, walking boots, wellies and country boots. Staff will be advised to guide students/visitors around any known areas of uneven ground and Alasdair Green will update all staff on ground conditions daily.	
		Entanglement in vegetation	Low	The river banks are minimally managed in order to protect the rich body of wildlife and plant life present in the habitat. In some areas, brambles and dense vegetation has grown along the banks. To avoid staff/students/visitors becoming entangled in the vegetation, no one is allowed by the river unattended and should not be within 1m of the river bank.	
		Animal holes	Low	The river banks are habitats for animals such as voles, rabbits and rats. As such, there may be holes along the banks that are entrances to their burrows. Students/staff/visitors are reminded daily to check their footing when walking by the river to avoid injuries related to feet/ankles/legs.	
Pond depth	Students, staff and visitors	Injury	Low	Students and visitors are not allowed to the ponds unattended. The ponds have soft boundaries which are unlikely to cause harm, and the substrate in each pond is unlikely to cause cuts/grazes if students/staff reach in with their hands/arms.	

		Drowning	Low-Medium	Students and visitors are not allowed to the ponds unattended. Students/staff/visitors should not enter the ponds or put their face near the water surface. There is a safety ring and ropes available at The Pond and River Camp.	
		Water bourn infections	Low	Students, staff and visitors are not to drink the pond water. Wild animals and livestock are housed near the pond, using it as a water source and there could be excrement entering the water from animal waste. The pond water may also contain parasites and micro-organisms such as bacteria that could cause illness. There is potential for zoonotic diseases to be passed from animals, to the staff, students and visitors around the pond. Should staff/students/visitors ingest water from the pond, their mouth will be rinsed with clean water and they will be monitored for signs of illness such as nausea, stomach pain, temperature, sweating. Should river water enter any open wounds, the wound will be flushed thoroughly with saline solution and monitored for signs of infection.	If illness develops seek immediate medical assistance.
Uneven ground	Students, staff and visitors	Slips, trips and falls	Medium	To access the river and ponds, fields need to be crossed which contain uneven ground. Students/visitors	

				must be supervised and all times and staff to dynamically assess the potential for harm from walking/running across the ground.	
		Injury	Medium	Should students/staff/visitors trip or fall then there is the potential for injuries including but not limited to, sprains, strains, fractures, cuts/grazes, bruising, concussion. If the ground is deemed to uneven then students/staff/visitors are restricted to walking through these areas.	
Pond dipping	Students, staff and visitors	Injury	Low	Injuries could occur from handling the pond dipping equipment. Pond dipping equipment including nets and trays are assessed for safety by staff before each use and any issues reported back to the office to organise repairs/replacement equipment. Students/staff/visitors should not directly handle any wildlife found whilst pond dipping to minimise injuries such as bites/pinches .	
		Water bourn infections	Low	Students, staff and visitors are not to drink the pond water. Wild animals and livestock are housed near the pond, using it as a water source and there could be excrement entering the water from animal waste. The pond water may also contain parasites and micro-organisms such	

			as bacteria that could cause illness. There is potential for zoonotic diseases to be passed from animals, to the staff, students and visitors around the pond. Should staff/students/visitors ingest water from the pond, their mouth will be rinsed with clean water and they will be monitored for signs of illness such as nausea, stomach pain, temperature, sweating. Should river water enter any open wounds, the wound will be flushed thoroughly with saline solution and monitored for signs of infection.	
	Malfunctioning equipment	Low	Plastic net poles and trays can splinter when dropped or crack causing sharp edges. These should be handled by staff in order to be disposed of, not by students/visitors.	Equipment is checked for safety before each use.
	Stress to wildlife	Medium	Students/staff/visitors should not directly handle any wildlife extracted from the ponds but use the nets and equipment provided. Wildlife should not be kept in trays for longer than 5 minutes. The trays must contain water from the pond the animal has been found in. Trays with animals in are not to be left unattended.	Animals are to be identified and released back in to the pond promptly.

Signed: *Alasdair Green* (Education Manager)

29/9/25

Review date: September 2026

Name: Alasdair Green

Date: 16/9/24