

# 8. Risk assessment

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| HAZARD                                  | PERSONS AT RISK AND HOW  | EXISTING CONTROL MEASURES   | RESIDUAL RISK | ADDITIONAL ACTIONS   |
|---|--|---|---------------|--|
| Classroom furniture.                    | Adults and children.<br>Risk of injury through collision with obstacles.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Main area kept clear of obstructions.</li> </ul>   | Low           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children should be adequately supervised by accompanying adults at all times and instructed to walk not run.</li> </ul>   |
| Animal artefacts.                       | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of allergy or infection as pathogen may enter the body through open cuts or by ingestion.<br><br>Risk of eye injury from the tips of feathers.<br><br>Risks associated with the manual handling of large seashells. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety notices in the classroom.</li> <li>Verbal instructions from Park staff.</li> <li>Hand sanitizer provided.</li> <li>Strict no eating or drinking policy during all education sessions.</li> </ul>  | Low           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group leader should check if any members of the party have known allergies or phobias prior to visiting.</li> <li>The group leader should carry any necessary medication and should be aware of how to deal with an emergency.</li> <li>The group leader must advise Park staff of any known allergies or phobias before education sessions begin.</li> <li>The group leader should ensure all adults and children have covered existing cuts with waterproof dressings.</li> <li>The group leader should ensure members of the party handle all artefacts with care.</li> <li>The group leader should ensure no adults or children consume food or drink during educational sessions.</li> <li>The group leader should ensure all adults and children wash their hands after the education session and before eating.</li> </ul> |
| Animal contact.                         | Adults and children.<br><br>In particular children under 5 years old, pregnant women, the elderly and those with impaired immunity.<br><br>Risk of zoonosis, allergy, water and soil borne diseases or risk of injury from animal.                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety notices in the classroom.</li> <li>Verbal instructions from Park staff.</li> <li>Contact only under supervision of Park staff.</li> <li>Hand sanitizer provided.</li> <li>Strict no eating or drinking policy during all education sessions.</li> </ul> | Low           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group leader should check if any members of the party have known allergies or phobias prior to visiting.</li> <li>The group leader should carry any necessary medication and should be aware of how to deal with an emergency.</li> <li>The group leader must advise Park staff of any known allergies or phobias before education sessions begin.</li> <li>The group leader should ensure all adults and children have covered existing cuts with waterproof dressings.</li> <li>The group leader should ensure no adults or children consume food or drink during educational sessions.</li> <li>The group leader should ensure all adults and children wash their hands after the education session and before eating.</li> </ul>  |
| Animal enclosures in the classroom.     | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of injury by unauthorised entry.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verbal instructions from Park staff.</li> <li>Enclosures secured where possible.</li> </ul>  | Low           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group leader should instruct adults and children not to touch animal enclosures in the classroom.</li> <li>Children should be adequately supervised by accompanying adults at all times.</li> </ul>   |
| Animal enclosures in the Nature Centre. | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of injury by unauthorised entry.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verbal instructions from Park staff.</li> <li>Enclosures secured where possible.</li> </ul>  | Low           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group leader should instruct adults and children not to touch animal enclosures in the classroom.</li> <li>Children should be adequately supervised by accompanying adults at all times.</li> </ul>   |

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| Alighting from coaches.  | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of slips, trips, falls and injury from other vehicles.                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Separate coach park provided.</li> <li>• Speed limits.</li> <li>• Safety notices in place.</li> </ul>  | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group leader should adhere to safety notices and use the designated alighting points in the coach park.</li> </ul>   |
| Site traffic.  | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of collisions.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footpaths provided.</li> <li>• Speed limits.</li> <li>• Safety notices in place.</li> </ul>  | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group leader should instruct all adults and children to keep to footpaths and pay particular attention when crossing roads.</li> </ul>   |
| Uneven surfaces, wet leaves or mud.                                      | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of slips, trips and falls.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park staff check ground conditions prior to outdoor activities such as pond dipping.</li> </ul>  | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group leader should advise all adults and children to wear sensible footwear.</li> <li>• Children should be adequately supervised by accompanying adults and instructed to walk not run.</li> </ul>  |
| Climbing on fencing, walls, seats, pillars, trees, posts and sculptures. | Children.<br><br>Risk of injury from falling.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety notices where relevant.</li> </ul>  | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children should be adequately supervised by accompanying adults and instructed not to climb objects.</li> </ul>  |
| Park Animals.  | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of injury including bites or scratches from reaching into an enclosure. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical barriers.</li> <li>• Safety notices where appropriate.</li> <li>• Strict no feeding and no unsupervised animal contact policy.</li> </ul> | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group leader should instruct all adults and children not to feed or touch any of the animals in the park unless permitted to do so and under the supervision of Park staff.</li> </ul>   |
| Biological hazard.   | Adults and children<br><br>Risk of zoonosis, water and soil borne diseases.                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand washing facilities provided.</li> <li>• Safety notices where relevant.</li> </ul>   | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group leader should advise all adults and children to cover existing cuts with waterproof dressings.</li> <li>• The group leader should instruct all adults and children to wash their hands after touching water, soil, leaf litter and animals.</li> </ul> |
| Interactive graphics and displays.                                       | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of trapping fingers or injury from walking into objects.                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robust, child friendly displays.</li> <li>• Wide walkways.</li> </ul>  | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All adults and children should take reasonable care when using interactive displays.</li> </ul>  |
| Play Area  | Children<br><br>Risk of slips, trips and falls.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety notices where relevant.</li> </ul>  | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children should be adequately supervised by accompanying adults at all times.</li> <li>• Children should take reasonable care when using play equipment.</li> </ul>  |

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| Straying into prohibited areas            | Adults and children.<br><br>Unidentified risks.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical barriers in place.</li> <li>Safety notices where relevant</li> </ul>  | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children should be adequately supervised by accompanying adults at all times.</li> <li>The group leader should instruct all members of the party to stay within designated areas.</li> </ul>   |
| Lakes, ponds, streams and water features. | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of drowning.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety notices where relevant.</li> <li>Life rings along the lakeside.</li> <li>The Nature Centre lakeside is fenced.</li> </ul> | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group leader should advise all adults and children to be alert and to take care near water.</li> <li>Children should be adequately supervised by accompanying adults at all times.</li> <li><b>PLEASE NOTE: THE WILDLIFE POND IN THE WALLED GARDEN IS UNFENCED.</b></li> </ul>   |
| Plants.                                   | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of allergic reactions including hay fever or poisoning if plant matter is ingested.<br><br>Risk of scratches and stings. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety notices where relevant.</li> <li>Brambles and nettles removed from paths and fence lines.</li> </ul>                      | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group leader should check if any members of the party have known allergies prior to visiting.</li> <li>The group leader should carry any necessary medication and be aware of how to deal with an emergency.</li> <li>The group leader should instruct all adults and children not to eat any part of any plant during their visit.</li> <li>The group leader should instruct all adults and children not to pick any part of any plant during their visit.</li> </ul> |
| Bees, wasps and insects.                  | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of being stung.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bins emptied regularly.</li> <li>Wasp nests removed.</li> </ul>  | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group leader should check if any members of the party have known allergies prior to visiting.</li> <li>The group leader should carry any necessary medication and should be aware of how to deal with an emergency.</li> </ul>   |
| Severe weather.                           | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of sunburn, hypothermia or dehydration.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indoor and undercover areas available to the public at all times.</li> </ul>   | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group leader should advise all adults and children to wear clothing appropriate for the weather conditions.</li> <li>All members of the party should apply suntan lotion as appropriate in hot weather.</li> <li>All members of the party should drink adequate fluids in hot weather.</li> </ul>  |
| Fire.                                     | Adults and children.<br><br>Risk of inhalation, skin burns, panic and loss of control.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fire procedures in place.</li> <li>Safety notices where relevant.</li> </ul>   | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the case of fire, all adults and children should go to the nearest Fire Assembly Point as advised by Park staff.</li> <li>Accompanying adults should take a head count and inform Park staff immediately if anyone in the group is missing.</li> </ul>  |
| Disorientation.                           | Vulnerable adults and children.<br><br>Risk of panic, loss of control.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vulnerable adult and lost child procedures in place.</li> </ul>  | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group leader should devise their own lost person procedure and instruct all adults and children accordingly.</li> <li>Accompanying adults should take regular head counts and inform Park staff immediately if any member of the group is missing.</li> <li><b>PLEASE NOTE: THE WALLED GARDEN MAZE HAS MORE THAN ONE EXIT.</b></li> </ul>  |
| Contact with members of the public.       | Vulnerable adults and children.<br><br>Risk to welfare of the individual.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A combination of Park staff, Leisure Rangers and police are present in the Park every day of the year.</li> </ul>                | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accompanying adults should take regular head counts and inform Park staff immediately if any member of the group is missing.</li> </ul>  |