

Risk Assessment: Learning visits: General (inc. Covid-19)



Site, department, work area	Washington Wetland Centre, Learning, Learning visits				
Task being assessed	Learning visits during CV19 *Wider site & Trust wide risk assessments also apply				
Risk Assessor/s	Assessed by: Gill Pipes		Reviewed by: Joanne Newbury		
Date of original Assessment	09/09/2020	Date of latest Review	22/9/2020	Next review due	31/01/2021

What is the hazard?	Persons at risk- who might be harmed?	How might people be harmed?	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating With existing control measures L x S = RR			Is this acceptable?	Further Action needed to Control the Risk?	Risk Rating With additional control measures L x S = RR			To be Actioned by (Person and date)
				Likelihood of harm	Severity of harm	Risk rating			Likelihood of harm	Severity of harm	Risk rating	
Moving vehicles in the car park.	All	Collision	Speed restriction signs- 10mph Clear separate pedestrian pathway Children at all times to be accompanied by an adult Clearly defined parking bays	2	2	4	Y	N				
Steep slope at entrance	All	Fall	Handrails installed Gritted when needed- ice and snow. Entrance way kept clear of obstacles. Daily site checks by grounds staff.	1	2	2	Y	N				
Zoonotic infection	All	Illness	Signage on corn bags and around site highlighting the need for hand washing Keep public separated from animals /water except in designated areas. Provide hand washing facilities and additional hand sanitiser Regular zoonotic cleaning of potentially harmful surfaces: paths/ handrails/ signage.	2	3	6	Y	N				

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COVID 19 infection	All	Poor social distancing during school visits	<p>Schools issued with and agree to revised terms & conditions to reflect expected behaviours re control of CV19</p> <p>No indoor or close contact (e.g. pond dip, minibeast hunt) Learning activities will take place as part of a school visit</p> <p>Schools will be met at entrance on arrival and led by Learning staff through the side gate to avoid accessing visitor centre</p> <p>Daily visitor numbers will be capped at 450 per day (including school groups) to allow for physical distancing</p> <p>Only one school booking (max 30 children) will be made each day and they are included in the max daily number cap.</p> <p>Contact details for school lead taken for track and trace purposes and also WWT staff / volunteers and visitors.</p> <p>Schools will have sole use of the Education Barn (thoroughly cleaned & sanitised pre use) for storing belongings & lunch breaks</p> <p>Schools will have designated portable toilet at Barn (but may also use the other visitor toilets in the grounds too). Learning staff will wear mask/ visor indoors.</p> <p>Hawthorn Wood Hide will be closed to other visitors 10-10.30am for school's sole use. Other hides have been configured to allow for social distancing</p> <p>Where necessary we have cut wider verges along paths to increase passing areas</p> <p>Hides, benches, toilets & high traffic handrails are sanitised 3 x daily.</p> <p>Hand sanitiser stations available throughout site including hides/gates/toilets.</p> <p>Groups should be kept outdoors as far as possible.</p>	1	4	4	Yes					

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Slips/trips/falls whilst walking around the grounds	All	Slips/trips/falls	Daily inspection of grounds for obstacles/ hazards by centre staff. All boardwalks/ bridges to be fitted with non-slip surface. Hazard reporting procedure in place. Suitable footwear to be worn safety talk at start of session Good adult:child ratio to help with vigilance.	3	1	3	Y	N				
Bites/ pecks /scrapes from animals	All	Bites/ pecks/ scrapes	Visitors separated from animals by fences except in designated areas Stand-off fences in place for all aggressive animals. Signage on those pens with potential to harm. Warn participants that some creatures bite so do not touch.	1	2	2	Y	N				
Loss of control of wheelchair / powered scooter leading to injury	All	Collision	Front desk to advise wheelchair users of accessible areas of the site. Signage displayed for areas not appropriate for wheelchair use. All new users of powered scooters to be given an induction to the equipment and sign to say they have understood.	1	2	2	Y	N				
Contact with moving machinery/vehicles	All	Entrapment Cuts impact injuries	Staff to stay aware of visitors and follow safe working distance guidelines set out in separate SWP's. Machinery dependent work to be carried out at times of low visitation where possible. Good adult:child ratio to help with vigilance.	1	4	4	Y	N				

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Open Water	All	Drowning	Clear verbal H& S advice given at start of visit. Good adult:child ratio help with vigilance. No running ahead of leader.	1	5	5	Y	N				
Contact with wild plants/ animals	All	Stings/ cuts/ poisoning/ allergic reaction	Grounds staff maintain areas, and learning staff to inspect activity area for problem species Safety talk prior to learning session and sanitiser use after session Good adult:child ratio to help with vigilance. Schools to inform WWT of pre-existing allergies Teacher with group to use Epi pen as necessary.	2	4	8	Y	N				
Hand feeding seed to birds.	All	Allergic reaction	Epi -pen trained person to accompany school. All allergies to be noted by school on booking form	2	4	8	Y	N				
Adverse weather	All	hypothermia / heatstroke/ dehydration/ sun burn	Suitable clothing, suncream, drinking water. Clear advice given to teachers prior to visit. Shelter provided for lunches.	1	3	3	Y	N				

WWT RISK SCORING MATRIX

Consequence of Accident/Incident			Likelihood of Accident/Incident occurring					
				Extremely Unlikely	Unlikely	Possible	Very Likely	Almost Certain
Equip/Property	Injury	Disease		1	2	3	4	5
Insignificant Damage, no rework	Insignificant No lost time	Insignificant Not applicable	1	1	2	3	4	5
Minor Damage requiring rework < 2 hrs	Minor Injury with up to 3/7 days lost time	Minor Non – Disabling	2	2	4	6	8	10
Moderate Damage requiring rework > 2hrs	Moderate Over 7 days lost time	Moderate Disabling, but fit for normal duties	3	3	6	9	12	15
Major Damage requiring rework > 8hrs	Major Long term absence	Major Disabling, Unfit for normal duties	4	4	8	12	16	20
Catastrophic Scrap of Eqpt/ plant	Catastrophic Death	Catastrophic Death attributable to disease	5	5	10	15	20	25

Emergency information

Location of nearest phone	Centre building (01914165454). All staff carry radios.
Local hospitals (emergency and non-emergency)	Emergency - Sunderland Royal Hospital, Kayll Rd, Sunderland, SR4 7TP Non emergency - Washington Primary Care Centre, Princess Ann Park, Parkway, Washington NE38
Access points for emergency services	Building - entrance through the main car park, down the ramp to the staff car park and main entrance. West of site - Entrance through the gate down the track at the back of the overflow carpark. East of site - entrance through the top gate, down the cycle path."