

Education Risk Assessment



	RA Ref	Date
General Visit to Wildwood	KED01	13/7/2022

RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDE

Likelihood (L)	Factor	Severity (S)	Factor
Almost Never	1	Minor	1
Unlikely	2	< 7 days absence	2
Likely	3	> 7 days absence	3
Very Likely	4	Major injury/illness	4
Certain	5	Death	5

RISK FACTOR (RF) CALCULATION (Likelihood x Severity)

Risk Factor	Category	Action
1 - 2	Minimal Risk	Maintain existing measures
3 - 9	Low Risk	Review control measures and monitor
10 - 15	Medium risk	Improve control measures. Address all safety systems
16 – 25	High risk	Improve control measures immediately. Stop work until risk is reduced

Staff and Volunteers

Public

Everyone



Activity	Hazard	Risk Rating			Persons at Risk	Controls	Risk Post-Controls			Revision
		L	S	RF			L	S	RF	Date
Child Protection and Safeguarding	Child endangerment	2	4	8	Students Visitors	All Wildwood tutors DBS checked. All tutors experienced and familiar with the animals and park layout. Tutor to welcome group and introduce all Wildwood education staff involved to children, students and teachers. Teachers to bring sufficient accompanying adults to supervise groups of children properly. All park staff, including tutors and shop staff, in radio contact in case of emergencies. Lost Child Policy in place. Permanent Education staff trained in Safeguarding. Designated Safeguarding Lead is Jaimie Morris.	1	4	4	

Live Animals	Bites, scratches, trampling and goring	4	5	20	<p>Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood staff Volunteers Work placement students</p>	<p>No visitor contact with animals. Stand-off barriers to prevent visitor contact Warning notices at enclosures. No feeding policy for visitors. Feeding only by Wildwood Trust staff taking guided groups. School groups invited to leave food bags behind for tours to avoid attracting animals. Trained first aiders on site and first aid equipment stored in all permanent buildings on site. All park staff, including tutors and shop staff, in radio contact in case of emergencies. Member of public enclosure breach procedure in place.</p> <p>Established animal escape procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff to clear public to safety during recapture • List of all visiting groups in shop/education diary • Director of Zoo Operations and senior keepers to coordinate recapture <p>Adder bite emergency procedure in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anaphylactic students to bring their epi-pens • Advise students of risk of wild adders in woods on day • Advise not to approach snakes but to call tutor • Local hospital aware of captive adders 	1	5	5	
Disease	Illness	3	3	9	<p>Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood staff Volunteers Work placement students</p>	<p>No contact policy for visitors (risk of disease transmission to and from animals) Feeding only by Wildwood staff taking guided groups Guided groups advised to wash hands with soap and hot water after activities and before eating; also alcohol gel hand washing dispensers available around the site.</p>	1	3	3	
Insect Bites / Stings	Allergic reaction, swelling, irritation, anaphylactic shock	4	5	20	<p>Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students</p>	<p>Advice given to students on keeping their distance from wood ant nests and stepping over wood ant trails to avoid ants' defensive responses. Bee / wasp sting plan in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • groups warned to be alert • bee zone not included on usual tours • No food to be consumed in bee zone, especially sweet things. • warning signs on approach to bee zone • first aiders trained to recognise anaphylactic shock 	2	5	10	

						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> teachers to be aware of presence of bees <p>Highly allergic students to bring their own sting relief cream / epi-pen (Wildwood's first aiders are not qualified to administer any medication). Ecology students working in woodlands asked about allergic reactions during initial H&S introduction. Bee hives behind glass panel and boundary fence, so contact unlikely. Mosquitoes generally a seasonal problem from May to June – general advice on presence in woodland and need to bring own insect repellent / sting relief/ wear long sleeves. Trained first aiders on site and first aid equipment stored in all permanent buildings on site. All park staff, including tutors and shop staff, in radio contact in case of emergencies.</p>				
Sun and heat	Sunstroke / heatstroke / heat exhaustion	3	4	12	Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students	Tree cover and shade extensive through spring to autumn Visitors are advised to wear sun hats, cover up bare skin and use sun cream. Water refills and cold drinks available from the cafe	2	4	8	
Heavy Rain	Flooding, Trips slips and falls	3	1	3	Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students	Tree cover is extensive through spring to autumn. Hides, covered verandas and small buildings around the park offer brief refuge during downpours. Visitors are advised to bring rainproof clothing and suitable footwear. Outdoor classroom available for student picnics in wet weather.	2	1	2	
Ice and Frost	Slips trips and falls, hypothermia	3	4	12	Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students	Ice and frost can cause slippery conditions underfoot. Visitors are advised to bring warm clothing and suitable footwear. Ice patches around the park monitored by staff and any necessary precautions taken. Recommended to avoid the boardwalks in icy conditions, or hold the rails.	2	4	8	
Extreme Weather Conditions	Debris, falling branches, flooding, slips	2	5	10	Teacher / Team Leaders Students	Senior staff monitor weather conditions and make safety decisions accordingly.	1	5	5	

(e.g. lightning, high wind, torrential rain)	trips and falls, lightning strike				Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students	In high winds, certain parts of Wildwood may be closed to visitors e.g. Top Forest, arctic fox walk-through, etc. Wildwood closed to visitors if winds exceed 40mph or there is lightning overhead.				
Trees	Debris, slips trips and falls, blunt force trauma	3	4	12	Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students	Paths checked daily for overhanging or fallen branches. Staff advised to be alert and keep eyes open in strong winds in case of falling branches or trees. Students are instructed not to climb trees or swing on branches. Woodland sites checked before use for overhanging or fallen branches and unstable trees. In high winds, certain parts of Wildwood may be closed to visitors. All visitors to stick to paths.	2	4	8	
Uneven surfaces and natural paths	Slips trips and falls	3	1	3	Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students	Exposed tree roots, stumps and growing trees present in pathways, so care is required. Groups advised of exposed roots and trees in paths before tours etc. Visitors are requested to keep to the marked paths. Trained first aiders on site and first aid equipment stored in all permanent buildings on site. Adult supervision required. Paths may become muddy and flooded after rain; suitable footwear (e.g. wellington/walking boots) required. Most stumps and tree roots removed from woodland paths but reasonable care required as pathways are natural, not concrete or tarmac.	2	1	2	
Drainage Ditches	Falling in causing injury Drowning	2	5	10	Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students	Typically dry in summer and wet in winter Care required on bridges in wet or frosty conditions Adult supervision required. Ditches separated by fencing- do not cross.	1	5	5	
Open Water (ponds)	Drowning	3	5	15	Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff	Stand-off barriers to prevent public contact. Warning signs in place. Adult supervision required.	1	5	5	

					Volunteers Work Placement Students	Students warned not to go near at the beginning of woodland sessions. Rescue equipment located by ponds.				
Nettles and Brambles	Stings, cuts and grazes	4	1	4	Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students	Regular cutting back carried out on paths and path edges. Students warned of plants during woodland sessions.	2	1	2	
Electric fencing (inside some enclosures)	Electric shock	4	2	8	Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students	Stand-off barriers to prevent public contact. Warning signs in place. Adult supervision required.	1	2	2	
Elevated walkways / viewing platforms	Slips trips and falls, falling from height	3	4	12	Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students	Elevated platforms have high solid wooden barriers to prevent falls. Platforms checked daily for fallen branches or twigs. Platform slippery when wet or icy. Visitors are advised to wear suitable footwear. In extreme weather, elevated sections may be closed for safety. Adult supervision required. Walk, do not run.	1	4	4	
Cables and Hoses	Slips trips and falls	4	2	8	Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students	Electrical cables and hoses laid across paths to be covered with safety matting. Cables and hoses to be removed as soon as finished with. Work to be done outside of visiting hours wherever possible.	1	2	2	
Playground Equipment	Slips trips and falls, falling from height	4	4	16	Students Visitors	Teacher / group leader supervision required at all times. Equipment checked daily. Deep wood bark play surface.	2	4	8	

						<p>Some equipment unsuitable for very young children, but designated under-fives play area is separately fenced and delineated by signs.</p> <p>Care required in wet weather as wooden ramps and surfaces may be slippery.</p> <p>Zip slide requires continuous adult supervision and only one person is permitted to use it at a time.</p> <p>Crenellated castle topping on fencing to prevent falls.</p> <p>Playground gates are closed at park closing; staff will check playground is empty before closing but teachers / group leaders must also account for all members of their party.</p>				
Dropslide	Slips trips and falls, falling from height	4	4	16	Students Visitors	<p>Teacher / group leader supervision required at all times, to control behaviour and prevent panic.</p> <p>Only open when managed by Wildwood staff.</p> <p>Handrails, advisory signs and overhead padding provided.</p> <p>Alternative exit into main fort provided.</p> <p>Avoid friction burns by covering up bare skin by wearing long trousers, socks and sleeved T-shirts, plus tucking in T-shirts at the back.</p> <p>Shoes must be removed while on dropslide, shoe storage areas provided.</p> <p>Impact cushions provided at slide end.</p> <p>Correct entrance to drop slide signposted.</p> <p>No entry signs to deter incomers.</p> <p>Directional exit signs from slide.</p> <p>Any dropped articles will follow the person to the slide end.</p> <p>Long covered walkway from endpoint back to entrance.</p> <p>Ledge to stop observers overhanging slide.</p>	2	4	8	
Bear Bridge	Slips trips and falls Entanglement	3	3	9	Teacher / Team Leaders Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students	<p>Teacher / group leader supervision required at all times, to control behaviour and prevent panic.</p> <p>Handrails, advisory signs and overhead padding provided.</p> <p>Fully enclosed.</p> <p>Central 'rest unit'.</p> <p>Platforms checked daily for fallen branches or twigs.</p> <p>Platform slippery when wet or icy. Visitors are advised to wear suitable footwear.</p> <p>In extreme weather, Bear Bridge may be closed for safety.</p> <p>Bear Bridge closed over winter.</p> <p>Nearby trees fitted with anti-climb sheets to prevent bears getting close.</p>	2	3	6	
Fire	Burns Smoke inhalation	2	5	10	Teacher / Team Leaders	<p>No smoking policy in the park.</p> <p>Fire procedure in place:</p>	1	5	5	

					<p>Students Visitors Wildwood Staff Volunteers Work Placement Students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established fire assembly points at park gates • Keepers and other members of staff trained as fire marshals to clear park • All other staff to assist • List of all visiting groups kept in shop/education diary • Fire extinguishers located in cafe and shop 				
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Name of Assessor – Juliet Landeman

Date of Assessment – 28/8/23

Name of Reviewer – Jaimie Morris