

Risk Assessment

Holt Hall Field Study Centre

Underwater Life

Location

Holt Hall Top Lake

Risks

The following risks are applicable to anyone taking part in this activity.

- Drowning
- Weil's disease and other water-borne diseases
- Hypothermia, heat exhaustion, heat stroke and sunburn.
- Injuries from improper use and carrying of equipment.

Control measures

Drowning

- Young people must work from the bank close to the bird hide or from the jetty and should not wade into the water.
- Only one person from each group should be allowed at the water's edge at any one time.
- A member of visiting staff should be stationed at the water's edge
- A throw line must be available in case of emergencies.

Weil's Disease and other water-borne ailments

- All young people must wear wellies.
- All young people must wear plastic gloves to avoid contact with lake water.
- Young people must take a shower if they fall into the lake.
- Young people must not eat or drink at any time during this activity.
- All young people must wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water at the end of this activity.
- In the event of young people developing flu-like symptoms after coming into contact with lake water parents/teachers should inform the appropriate authorities of the nature of the activities carried out.

Hypothermia, heat exhaustion, heat stroke and sunburn

- See general risk assessment

Injuries from improper use of equipment

- Young people should carry nets vertically on the way down to the lake with the net end raised
- Young people should take care with nets when working at the lake's edge. Particular care should be taken not to hit anybody with the pole end of the net. Groups must be spaced out.
- Young people must walk at all times when working at the lake's edge or when carrying nets.

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