

Risk Assessment – Pond Dipping

Name of activity, event, and location	Pond Dipping	Date of risk assessment	08/07/2026	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Kerri Jeffrey / Stuart Collett/ Vicki Carcary
		Date of next review	08/07/2027	Version	1.0

Hazard Identified? / Risks from it?	Who is at risk?	How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
Hazard – something that may cause harm or damage. Risk – the chance of it happening.	Young people, Leaders, Visitors?	Controls – Ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk from it. For example - you might use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way the activity is carried out.	Keep checking throughout the activity in case you need to change it...or even stop it! This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.
Appropriate supervision is required at all times	All	YP are advised that wildlife areas are out of bounds unless on a supervised activity. Adult ratios out of the meeting place will be carried out.	
Insect bites and stings (from animals and plants)	All	- Legs and arms advised to be covered - Avoid moving through deep vegetation - Brief YP on the potential hazards, particularly from stinging and biting insects, including ticks. Stinging plants and adders (although highly unlikely) - First aid administered where appropriate	
Working close to deep water – falling into pond - drowning	All	- Only dip from open areas, i.e. a platform - Warn of the dangers of deep water - No running - Demonstrate safe dipping techniques	
Slippery surfaces – slips, trips and falls	All	- Leaders to check and where possible remove obstacles - Warn to take care and be aware of others around them - Limit the number of people in the area	

Additional information can be found in the Safety Checklist for Leaders and other information at scouts.org.uk/safety

Risk Assessment – Pond Dipping

Pond dipping net and other equipment – injury to eyes (inadvertently poking)	All	- Warn to take care and be aware of others around them - Limit the number of people in the area	
Pond water – potential infection from disease via open cuts or putting fingers in mouths	All	- Briefing to include warnings of the dangers of pond water at the start of the activity - Warn not to put fingers in mouth, or eat or drink during the activity - Ensure hands are washed after the activity - Cover all open wounds before the start of the activity	
Review due: A risk assessment needs reviewing if circumstances change but also schedule regular reviews to ensure they are current, perhaps every 12 months? The review must include a detailed look at each element of the risk assessment in order to establish if any change is required.			

DOCUMENT VERSION CONTROL

Version Number	Changes Made	Changes Made By	Date
1.0	Document Version Control Log Created	Kyla Flack	16/09/2026

Additional information can be found in the [Safety Checklist for Leaders](https://scouts.org.uk/safety) and other information at scouts.org.uk/safety

HQ Template Published February 2019

Risk Assessment – Pond Dipping

Additional information can be found in the [Safety Checklist for Leaders](https://scouts.org.uk/safety) and other information at scouts.org.uk/safety

HQ Template Published February 2019