

Risk Assessment for school visits to the river Pang at Bradfield College

Most used river site: KS2, KS3 & KS4 groups

All action points in bold type are to be addressed by staff on the day of each visit.

SITE NAME: Bradfield College

GRID REF: SU6041372576

OWNER: Bradfield College, Bradfield, Berkshire

TEL. NO: 0118 971 2584

ASSESSOR: John Bishop 07803923842

NEAREST HOSPITAL: Royal Berkshire, Craven Road, Reading (0118 987 5111), West Berkshire Community Hospital, Thatcham (01635 273300)

SITE ACCESS FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES: via the swimming pool car park

HAZARD	RISK LEVEL Low - high	ACTION
Risk from public – main section of river is accessible to public due footpath	medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure teachers are familiar and comfortable with the site • Ensure adequate presence of adults on school trips
Dangerous trees/branches 1. poplars & willows close to main section of river	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low branches which pose hazard to be trimmed back as deemed necessary during checks. Liaise with landowner if appropriate
Roadside hazards	medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park in Swimming Pool car park. Children supervised on way to the river • Warn children if necessary • Adequate supervision • Car Park can be busy at times. School & trust staff at front and rear of column of children
Ground conditions - often uneven, muddy, wet	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate supervision and control of children • Advise teachers on appropriate footwear
Weather conditions – especially relevant given lack of shelter at the site	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Aid kit and blanket to be brought along on each visit • Provide schools with recommendations for suitable clothing
River work hazards – including risk posed by high banks and uneven ground, falling into water, disease, speed and depth of water and risk of drowning. Boundaries pointed out. Bridge downstream, outflow pipe upstream.	medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • warn children of wire along fences, stiles, trip hazards in water, steep banks and uneven ground, advise work where banks are gentle • adequate adult/child ratio (min. 1:6 for those in water) • health & safety information to be

		<p>sent to all schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • health & safety talk to all groups • cuts covered and use of antiseptic wipes • site to be visited before each visit ensure water is not too deep for a visit and to remove obstacles from the river • first aid kit, mobile phone, rescue device and blanket to be carried on each visit
Underwater hazards	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large stones and remains of wooden pilings are all potential trip hazards especially when water stirred up. Children warned.
Hand rail on bridge secure but wobbles – College to be made aware	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children told not to lean on the hand rail
No hand rail on other side of bridge	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children told to stay away from this side when crossing
Wildlife hazards – snakes, fungi etc	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • warn children not to approach

Assessor: J. Bishop

Date of Assessment: 14/09/19.