

**15 GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT – SWIMMING DURING EDUCATIONAL VISITS Page 1**

**For swimming or paddling in natural waters leader competence must be confirmed by LEA Outdoor Education Adviser (OEA).**

HAZARD	RISK	PERSONS AT RISK	CONTROL MEASURES	COMMENTS/ ACTIONS	RESIDUAL RISK RATING	INITIAL IF ALL IN PLACE
Use of swimming pools	Drowning, injury	Pupils, staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preferably use local authority run pools during life guarded sessions</li> <li>• If swimming in other pools, complete a risk assessment checking the following points:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is constant pool supervision by qualified lifeguards during swimming sessions</li> <li>• There is resuscitator and other first aid equipment with someone trained to use them</li> <li>• Lifesaving equipment is adequate</li> <li>• Water temperature is appropriate</li> <li>• Water appears clear and is regularly tested for quality</li> <li>• Depth of water is suitable for group and activities</li> <li>• Changing facilities safe and hygienic</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Swimming, diving and other activities must be specifically risk assessed</li> <li>• Pupils must be briefed as to how to behave in and around the water</li> <li>• If no life guard available a designated leader must hold a relevant lifesaving award and act as a lifesaver</li> </ul> <p>In addition to lifesavers/lifeguards, sufficient leaders must act as observers to swimmers.</p>	<p>Pre-visit - site specific risk assessment</p> <p>Inform parents and gain permission</p>	<b>Low</b>	

*This generic risk assessment for school use identifies the common hazards and control measures associated with this type of visit or activity. Before undertaking the activity, the **GROUP LEADER** must also make an “**EVENT-SPECIFIC**” assessment of any risks associated with their particular visit, including the **SITE, GROUP, ACTIVITIES, STAFFING & TRAVEL**.*

LOCATION OF VISIT:

DATE(S):

ASSESSMENT CARRIED OUT BY: NAME:

SIGNED:

DATE:

**15 GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT – SWIMMING DURING EDUCATIONAL VISITS Page 2**

HAZARD	RISK	PERSONS AT RISK	CONTROL MEASURES	COMMENTS/ACTIONS	RESIDUAL RISK RATING	INITIAL IF ALL IN PLACE
Swimming in sea or other natural waters	Drowning injury	Pupils, staff	<p>Preferably swim on lifeguarded beaches. If not, at least one leader <b>must</b> hold a recognised life saving award.</p> <p>Never allow impromptu swimming or paddling – always risk assess the proposed venue in advance for tides, currents, rocks, weeds, nature of bottom and sides, Also assess ability of pupils and staff and activities proposed</p> <p>Arrange:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate ratio (1:10 pupils maximum)</li> <li>• Safe area</li> <li>• Signals for distress and recall</li> <li>• Lifesaver and observers (some in sea but at least one adult to stay out of water)</li> <li>• Constant head counts</li> <li>• Briefing of pupils and staff</li> </ul> <p>Guidance in DfES "Handbook for Group Leaders" and the leaflet "Group Safety at Water Margins"  <a href="http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/visits">http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/visits</a> must be read and followed</p>	<p>Pre-visit - site specific risk assessment and confer with Outdoor Education Adviser</p> <p>Inform parents and gain permission</p> <p>Reassess on day</p> <p>Brief pupils and staff</p>	<b>Medium</b>	

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