

27 GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT – NARROWBOATING, USE OF CANAL BOATS OR MOTOR BOATS ON CANALS OR RIVERS Page 1
In addition to evidence of recent and relevant experience, the leader must hold the appropriate qualification for the activity proposed and be approved by the LEA Outdoor Education Adviser (OEA).

HAZARD	RISK	PEOPLE AT RISK	CONTROL MEASURES	COMMENTS/ACTIONS	RESIDUAL RISK RATING	INITIAL IF ALL IN PLACE
Route taken	Disabling or fatal injury	Pupils, staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skipper has prior knowledge of route • Route is suitable for ability/experience of group • Weather forecast obtained, weather and water conditions constantly monitored and activity adjusted accordingly 		Low	
Water environment	Drowning, injury	Pupils, staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The skipper holds suitable qualification for the boat and water: either (RYA Inland Waters Helmsman with river and tidal endorsement if appropriate or Community Boat Association Certificate in Community Boat Management or DTI Boatmaster Certificate) • Pupils supervised by at least one other adult in addition to skipper. This adult should pre visit the boat and meet skipper to become familiar with the boat and procedures • At least one leader holds first aid and resuscitation awards • Personal buoyancy meets RYA recommendations and leaders check buoyancy always worn correctly Buoyancy is always worn by pupils and adults on whilst on deck on rivers if boat is moving; worn on canals unless assessment by skipper of group and prevailing conditions suggest safe not to do so. • Entry and exit of boats managed and supervised • Ramps and hoists (for people with disabilities) are used by trained staff • Pupils and staff briefed at start of journey re rules, procedures and sensible behaviour 	There is a tested written operating procedure for use of boat by groups of young people or skipper and leader write specific risk assessment and control measures for the venture	Low	
Locks, operation of winches and lock gates	Drowning, injury	Pupils, staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skipper provides clear instructions and management • Close supervision of pupils • Buoyancy aids worn by pupils and staff (skipper has discretion to decide not to wear buoyancy depending on nature of lock) 		Low	

*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:

27 GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT – NARROWBOATING, USE OF CANAL BOATS OR MOTOR BOATS ON CANALS OR RIVERS Page 2

HAZARD	RISK	PERSONS AT RISK	CONTROL MEASURES	COMMENTS/ACTIONS	RESIDUAL RISK RATING	INITIAL IF ALL IN PLACE
Boat and equipment	Drowning, fire, injury	Pupils, staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boat has British Waterways/National Rivers Authority Boat Safety Certificate Vessel and equipment is always checked before use; an equipment log is maintained and regular maintenance programme is undertaken Consideration is given to layout of stern and helming area and skipper takes action to avoid risk of anyone falling overboard by, for example, being pushed by the tiller Boats with gas have gas alarm Skipper trained in fire procedures and use of extinguishers Safety briefing for pupils and staff 		Low	
Water quality	Illness	Pupils, staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local advice taken re water quality Open cuts and sores covered Pupils and parents briefed re Weil's disease and action to take if appropriate 		Low	
Exposure to weather	Hypothermia	Pupils, staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable clothing and footwear and change of clothes Spare clothing and emergency equipment available to group Plan for pupils who may do not bring suitable clothing – check before departure and/or bring spares Weather forecast obtained, wind and water conditions constantly monitored and activity adjusted accordingly Emergency telephone available 	Provide clear information re suitable clothing and equipment to pupils and parents	Low	

*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: