

River Stour Safaris – generic risk assessment

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	CONTROL MEASURES	WHAT FURTHER ACTION IS NEEDED?
Avoidable objective dangers / unsuitable location	Participants, instructors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locations to be site-specifically assessed by technical adviser • BCU coach Level 2 minimum - as suitable for activity planned • Ability / experience of group taken into account • Weather forecast obtained, weather and water conditions constantly monitored and activity adjusted accordingly; alternative programme / cancellation if conditions unsuitable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructors to undertake dynamic risk assessment throughout all sessions.
Water environment (drowning, injury)	Participants, instructors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The leader holds the appropriate BCU qualification for; the craft, the water (inland) and prevailing conditions • Leader follows BCU code of practice • Participants supervised in BCU recommended ratios by qualified staff (1:8) • Participants on shore / bank are suitably supervised • The leader is first aid qualified • Personal buoyancy meets BCU recommendations and leaders check buoyancy always worn correctly when afloat • All boats have suitable buoyancy • Equipment as recommended by BCU is carried and used as appropriate. • Participants are appropriately briefed on use of all equipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructors to undertake dynamic risk assessment throughout all sessions.
Equipment failure (drowning)	Participants, instructors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All equipment is checked before use; an equipment log is maintained and an annual maintenance programme is undertaken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructors to undertake dynamic risk assessment throughout all sessions.
Water quality	Participants, instructors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local advice taken re. water quality. • Open cuts and sores covered with waterproof plasters. • Pupils and parents briefed re. Weil's disease and action to take if appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructors to undertake dynamic risk assessment throughout all sessions.

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Exposure to weather (hypothermia / heatstroke)	Participants, instructors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable clothing, footwear and change of clothes • Spare clothing and emergency equipment available to group • Suncream available for group use (to be self-administered). • Plan for pupils who 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructors to undertake dynamic risk assessment throughout all sessions.
Head injury	Participants, instructors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All participants to wear helmets. • Instructors to wear helmets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructors to undertake dynamic risk assessment throughout all sessions.