

Activity Area:	Raft Building - Lake
Minimum Staffing Level	1 per group
Staff/Pupil Ratio	1:20
Staff Qualifications	In-house Trained Raft Building Course
Maximum Number of Participants	20
Role of Accompanying Adult:	Bank supervisor

Risk Matrix	Likelihood			
	Very Likely	Likely	Unlikely	Highly Unlikely
Fatality	High -16-	High -15-	High -14-	Medium -13-
Major Injuries	High -12-	High -11-	Medium -10-	Medium -9-
Minor Injuries	High -8-	Medium -7-	Medium -6-	Low -5-
Negligible Injuries	Medium -4-	Medium -3-	Low -2-	Low -1-

Hazard	Persons at Risk	Prior Risk	Existing Control Measures	New Risk Factor
Water	Instructors Participants	High 16	Instructor to advise group not to ingest water or use water activities if suffering from open wounds. Water testing to be carried at twice per year as in accordance with business peak times. More tests to be carried out if required. All staff & participants always wear buoyancy aids when in the water. Weak and non-swimmers identified prior to session commencing.	Medium 13
Location of activity	Instructors Participants Observers	Medium 4	First Aid kit available. Mobile phone available. VHF radios are used to maintain contact with duty manager. Off-site emergency procedure in place.	Low 2
Faulty equipment	Instructors Participants	Medium 4	Equipment is checked prior to the start of every session. Equipment fault report system in place. Faulty equipment is taken out of service.	Low 2
Raft collapsing	Instructors Participants	High 8	Safety brief given to include action on raft collapsing. Participants are shown how to tie secure knots during session. Instructor checks all rafts for rigidity prior to going afloat. Faulty rafts are not permitted on the water. Helmets and bouncy aids worn by all participants whilst paddling the raft.	Low 2
Rope entanglement	Instructors Participants	High 8	One Rescue Knife to be located with head Rafting instructor. Safety brief given at the start of the session.	Low 5
Paddles	Instructors Participants	High 8	All staff & participants always wear helmets when on the water. Safety brief delivered before the session commences. Paddles checked for sharp edges and taken out of use if too dangerous to use.	Medium 6
Injury to feet	Instructors Participants Observers	High 12	Suitable footwear check takes place prior to accessing lake. All participants instructed to always wear trainers or suitable footwear.	Medium 7
Lifting Raft	Instructors Participants	High 8	Staff provided with manual handling training. Staff arrange for raft to be build close to the water edge. Safety brief includes correct lifting technique.	Medium 7
Weather	All	Medium 4	Instructor to monitor weather & suspend or cancel session when conditions cause safety to be affected. Instructor to check that all participants have suitable clothing prior to commencing the activity. Instructors must always wear appropriate clothing to run the activity safely. Appropriate clothing, time out of sun, fluid breaks.	Low 1

Raft Building
06/03/2025 Date of next review 06/03/2026 RA Creator CW IOSH NEBOSH

			Water resistant sun cream should be used for sunny days. This should be reapplied after the session ends	
Extremities entrapment	Participants Instructors	High 8	Instructor to brief participants on the specific risks of each section of the rafts before allowing participant on the lake. Instructor to be vigilant during the session and be in the position of maximum usefulness. Instructors to stress the importance of not flipping over any craft on the water. Instructors to have rescue knife in their bouncy aids.	Low 5
High winds	Instructors Participants	High 16	Instructor to monitor weather & suspend or cancel session when wind conditions cause safety to be affected. Tree Survey and wind policies in place (see SOP).	Medium 13
Storage cabin	Instructors Participants Observers	High 8	Instructors to make sure two persons lift the equipment into the storage cage. Footwear to be worn at all times when in the lake area. Storage cage to be locked when not in use.	Medium 11
Attack from Swans. In nesting season	Instructors Participants	High 8	Instructors to monitor and avoid going near the swans if aggressive behaviour is displayed. Note nest sites such as inside island. Make participants aware of the risks and always monitor.	Medium 11
Struck by boat	Instructors Participants Observers	High 8	Good group supervision. Instructor to take care when playing and when launching boats from the slip way.	Low 5
Sinking into deep mud around the lake.	Instructors Participants	High 8	Instructor to have knowledge of these areas and to keep group away from them	Low 5
Sharps	Instructors Participants Observers	High 12	Area to be checked before session for any sharps that may be in the area. Training and equipment on hand for staff to remove any sharps in the area.	Medium 9
Flooding	Instructors Participants Observers	High 12	Duty manager to assess the lake after heavy rain. Consideration of group size and ability depending on the level of the water if the session can proceed.	Medium 9

Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC) Inland Bathing Waters	
Excellent	EC: ≤500 cfu/100ml ; IE: ≤200 cfu/100ml (95th percentile)
Good	EC: ≤1000 cfu/100ml ; IE: ≤400 cfu/100ml (95th percentile)
Sufficient	EC: ≤900 cfu/100ml ; IE: ≤330 cfu/100ml (90th percentile)