

## Risk Assessment Record Safety and rescue course

<b>Bolton School</b>	<b>Assessment carried out by: Steven Bradley</b>
<b>Date of next review: 04/09/2026</b>	<b>Date assessment was carried out: 04/09/2025</b>

<b>Overview of activity / location / equipment / conditions being assessed:</b>		Safety and Rescue Courses will be delivered to staff and pupils of Bolton school. For staff this will be run every 2 years as an update for their British Canoeing qualifications but also as further CPD. For pupils it may be delivered modular over a period of time in preparation for various kayaking trips or over one weekend using various locations such as High Rid, The Anderton centre, The river Leven, The Kent, Devils Bridge on the Lune or even The Treweryn or the River Dee	
<b>Generic or specific assessment?</b> Generic		<b>Context of assessment</b> Activity Provision	
Hazard(s) identified	Persons affected	Existing controls/precautions	Additional controls required
1. Slips, trips and Falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees</li> <li>• Participants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants will be briefed on the Inherent hazards which are on the river bank. Where possible locations will be chosen to minimize the risk although it is important that the environment used also reflects the working area of where the award will be used.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
2. Swimming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees</li> <li>• Participants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suitable venues for the course will be chosen based on the instructors knowledge, qualifications and experience.</li> <li>• Participants will be trained in safe swimming techniques and will be encouraged to practice defensive and aggressive styles of swimming and where they may be used.</li> <li>• As these courses may take place throughout the winter participants will be dressed appropriately wearing a drysuit if possible and if wearing wetsuits then waterproof/windproof over layers will be recommended.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>

3. Entrapment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees</li> <li>• Participants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Venues will be chosen to minimize the risk of Entrapment. Safe swimming techniques will be used to minimize the risk further.</li> <li>• Participants will be briefed on how to avoid obstacles and top absorb the impact with their feet as well as fend off the obstacle.</li> </ul>	N/A
4. Wading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees</li> <li>• Participants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The instructor will demonstrate wading techniques and will choose a suitable venue.</li> <li>• The venue will be chosen to reduce the risk of entrapment and if the wading technique fails the participants will encounter minimum risk downstream</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
5. Obstacle in Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants</li> <li>• Employees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Venues will be chosen with a minimum risk of impacting obstacles when in the water.</li> <li>• Safe swimming techniques will have been discussed and practiced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
6. Use of rescue equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants</li> <li>• Employees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the safety course staff will train participants to use the following items of equipment appropriately. If a participant is using the kit inappropriately the staff member will intervene if it is deemed to be unsafe.</li> <li>• Canoe/Kayak</li> <li>• PFD with chest Harness</li> <li>• Tow Line</li> <li>• Throw Bag</li> <li>• Knife and/or rescue Saw</li> <li>• Slings, tapes Krabs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
7. Injury from performing rescues and the Inherent risks they present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants</li> <li>• Employees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The instructor will brief participants on the risks of rescues</li> <li>• In order to minimize risk of injury through excessive strains on the body staff will help participants to use techniques designed to reduce these excessive forces. Participants will be encouraged to “share the load” where possible.</li> <li>• Where appropriate staff may demonstrate appropriate techniques to perform the rescue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
8. Boat rescues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants/instructors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants will wear a helmet.</li> <li>• Participants will be trained to rescue canoes/kayaks in a safe and controlled manor</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The venue will be chosen where there is a reduced risk of injury during the rescue</li></ul>	
--	--	--	--