

## Shark Risk Assessment for canoeing on the lake at Thamesmead

Risk	Actions	Responsibility	Other
Falling in the water	<p>All participants must wear Buoyancy aids.</p> <p>Participants are informed of what action to take if they should fall in, prior to getting in a boat.</p>	<p>Instructor</p> <p>Instructor</p>	<p>At entry level lessons and general public sessions at least one instructor must be on the water.</p> <p>Entry level lessons are designed to minimise the chances of falling in.</p>
Ill effects of immersion in water	<p>Cuts and open wounds should be covered before participants take part.</p> <p>Participants are advised that if they fall in they should shower as soon as possible.</p> <p>If any ill effects are felt, to seek medical advice as soon as possible and to inform doctor of the fact you have been canoeing in the canal.</p>	<p>Paddlers/parents/instructors</p> <p>Instructor to advise, parents or participants to act</p> <p>Instructor to advise, parents or participant to act.</p>	
Injury from tripping or falling over	No running on the bank side, near equipment, boats etc.	Instructor to enforce rules	
Injury from lifting canoes	Juniors not to lift boats on their own	Instructor	All boats when carried by juniors should be carried by two people.
Injury from bumping into each other on the water	<p>Deliberate crashing is not allowed</p> <p>Buoyancy aids are designed to give all round protection from minor collisions.</p>	Instructor to maintain behaviour whilst on the water.	At entry level lessons paddlers will not be travelling sufficiently fast to cause any major issues

Injury from being accidentally hit by another person's paddle.	Sessions to be run to ensure that paddlers have their own space.  Deliberately hitting other paddlers is not allowed.	Instructor.	
Hypothermia	Paddlers should wear appropriate clothing. If participants fall in they should follow the teacher's instructions and get back in the boat as soon as possible.	Instructor to advise	Survival blankets are available at all sessions.
Exhaustion	Paddlers should wear appropriate clothing for the conditions, on hot days bring water to drink	Instructor to advise	
Sun burn	Wear appropriate clothing and sun cream	Paddlers or parents	Being in close proximity to water, the sun is reflected onto the skin and participants need to be aware of additions risk on sunny days.

### General comments

This is a contained lake with no other boats or moving craft, thus reducing the risk of collisions with other users; lessons and sessions will avoid going close to the edges, except where appropriate, this is to avoid potential anglers and wildlife nesting sites, this is not a risk element from the participants point of view, but it is to help protect and enhance wildlife in the area.

There are proper facilities in the main building, including toilets and changing rooms with showers, as well as a kitchen area and rooms that can be used for first aid.

All our staff are qualified first aiders and trained to deal with water emergencies.