

RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk Assessment for:	HYDROTHERAPY POOL USE	Prepared by:	H&S Co-Ordinators – S.L & V.D
		Assessed by SLT Signature:	
Location:	ROSEWOOD FREE SCHOOL & AVENUES SITE	Date of Assessment:	November 2024
		Review Date:	November 2026

Activity / Hazard	Who might be harmed?	Hazards Identified which may cause harm – consequence	Existing Level of Risk	Control Measure and Precautions Taken	Additional Control Measures or Further Action Required	Remaining level of Risk
Use of the hydrotherapy Pool during school / college	Employees, Learners, third parties	Pool water – drowning, secondary drowning, death	High - 30	All pool doors & windows kept locked when pool is not staffed, inner door kept locked until the poolside is staffed, 1 person on the poolside at all times, pool use ratio – minimum of 1-1 staff member to Learner, telephone & alarm system on poolside for emergency situation. All staff using or supporting hydrotherapy need to complete the hydrotherapy training. Vigilance always when supporting poolside. Individual hydro programs to hand to support each Learners needs during hydro.	Nursing team, first aiders on site & 999 in an emergency	Med - 10
Walking and manoeuvring around poolside	Employees, Learners, third parties	Slips, trip or fall on wet floor	Med - 10	Non-slip floor installed, pool users must walk on poolside, suitable footwear on poolside, wet floor signs, chairs /Arjo trolley/ Arjo chair to be kept away from pool edge.	Good housekeeping, squeegee tools to hand	Low - 5
Unclean pool side flooring	Employees, Learners, third parties	Cross infection from unclean floors causing verruca's, athlete's foot & other skin infections.	Low - 6	Regular cleaning regime in place. Shoe protectors must be worn over outside shoes at the poolside or staff use designated pool shoe. No wheelchairs on poolside.	Good housekeeping	Low - 2

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Not showering before & after using the pool	Employees, Learners, third parties	Poor hydro pool water properties & contaminants in turn creating irregularities water conditions & levels	Med - 9	All staff & Learners to shower before using the pool. Regular water treatment regime in place as part of an on-going service agreement.		Low - 3
Accidental release of faeces and / or vomit into the pool water	Employees, Learners, third parties	Next pool using getting Giardiasis, upset tummy, Noroviruses or other bacterial contaminants	Med - 15	Incontinent pool users to wear swimming pads or pants. Leave the pool if any sign of discharge. Close the pool. Remove any solids from the pool. Ozone and higher levels of chlorine in place. Only re-open the pool when water chemical levels are safe.	Learners who have a known bug in their system not to use the pool.	Low - 5
Bacterial infection or poisoning from incorrect dosing of the pool water	Employees, Learners, third parties	Chlorine poisoning, bacterial proliferation leading to ear/eye/stomach infections, vomiting, and death	High - 20	Daily checks on the pool dosing system to ensure correct functioning, weekly testing of pool water – externally, quarterly servicing and maintenance agreement with professional Service Provider.	Ongoing vigilance, checking and servicing.	Med - 10
Vapour release following mixing of acid and alkali chemicals	Employees, Learners, third parties	Chlorine gas, vomiting, death.	High - 20	All cleaning staff & maintenance team instructed in chemical storage, selection and correct use		Med - 10
Use of equipment, swimming aids in the water	Employees, Learners, third parties	Equipment may become worn & unsafe with water usage or harbouring bacteria.	Low - 4	Ensure all equipment is sound for use & fit for purpose. Vigilance and checking of equipment's state before use.	Dispose of equipment if not fit for use.	Low - 2

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Fire alarm and exit	Employees, Learners, third parties	Slips, trips & fall causing impact injury, fall into the water, drowning, death. Injury to uncovered feet causing skin damage. Temperature change causing unnecessary chill.	High - 20	Follow the school SSoW fire exit plan for exiting the pool. Pool shoes made available for wet person, dry person to wear own shoes. Staff team and learners to as far as reasonable possible to leave hydro together. Foil blankets and towels provided for learners and staff to use for exiting.	Pool staff to place wet floor sign in hydro corridor on exiting.	Med - 10
Emergency incident with dry adult on poolside	Employees	Impact injury, slips, trips or fall.	Med - 9	Hydro assistant to ensure the alarm box with alarm in it is suitably positioned on poolside at all times, whilst hydro is happening. Wet adult to follow the SSoW for these situations – follow initial pool training. Hydro assistant to test the alarm and ensure in working order every Monday – sign sheet in place and checked on building audit. Inform H&S team if its damaged.	Good housekeeping.	Low - 6
Learner entering/ exiting pool via descending /ascending transfer from pool side.	Employees, Learners, M&H trained third parties	Staff ascending/descending transfer learner who is above the recommended weight or who or is only hoisted according to Handling plan causing MSD injury to staff. Staff may slip or fall on wet floor during the transfer causing impact injury or MSD injury. Learner may suffer impact injury should staff member fall or if they slip when wet from staff members grip. Learners are bruised or skin damaged from floor surface whilst sitting on it.	Med- 15	Staff trained to undertake ascending/descending transfers before carrying them out with learners. Only learners assessed on handling plan as ascending and descending transfer suitable will do this to enter/exit pool. Non-slip floor installed, pool users must walk on poolside, suitable footwear on poolside, wet floor signs. Staff to ensure they use towels in a prompt manner so as the Learners are as dry as	Maintain good housekeeping, Squeegee tools to hand. Staff to follow own risk assessment for their suitability to undertake this transfer.	Med -10

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				<p>possible before beginning any transfer</p> <p>Staff instructed to have good communication between poolside and water based staff members. Be mindful of pool edge.</p> <p>Use small changing mat to sit or lie learners on not directly on the pool floor.</p> <p>Staff to follow hydro Assistant (or class lead adult in the event class team run a session in absence of hydro assistant)</p>		
Learner travels from changing room to pool edge and back in class chair or low shower chair (grey or blue Rifton chair)	Learner, staff, M&H trained third party	<p>Chair not being secured in position, causing chair in motion to cause an impact injury or running over toes.</p> <p>Learner falling out of chair causing impact injury.</p> <p>Chair on pool edge brakes left off and chair topples into pool with Learner in.</p>	Med -15	<p>Ensure brakes are used when the learner is in transition, near the pool, in the shower. Appropriate footwear for adult.</p> <p>Ensure the learner is secure in the chair by using the lap belt.</p> <p>Shower chair to be moved at a safe steady speed.</p> <p>Each pupil has a risk assessment before using the equipment to ensure that it is appropriate for individual requirements.</p>		Low-5
Use of pool single track overhead hoist for Learners to enter/exit the pool	Learner, staff, M&H trained third party	<p>Staff to read and follow ceiling XY/single track hoist Risk assessment for hoisting hazards</p> <p>In addition: Learner may be active/unpredictable in hydro sling during hoisting resulting in discomfort or falling from sling in to the pool or on to the pool floor resulting in varying impact injury or risk of drowning, secondary drowning or death</p>	High -20	<p>Staff to read and follow Ceiling XY/Single track hoist Risk assessment for hoist use control measures</p> <p>In addition: In circumstances where the Arjo trolley is unavailable and the Learner will require hoisting to enter/exit the pool, The hydro assistants and M&H have assessed those Learners for whom this is a suitable and safe alternative option. If it is not the Learner will</p>	Staff receive Moving and Handling induction training prior to undertaking hoisting with our Learners, plus a yearly refresher.	Med-10

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				<p>not swim until ARJO trolley is available. Suitable hydro slings available and fitted by hydro assistant</p> <p>Learner's handling plan updated to include hoisting to/from the pool</p>	<p>All staff to read and follow each Learners Individual Moving and Handling Risk assessment/ Handling plan</p>	
Use of pool single track overhead hoist for Learners to enter/exit the pool	Learner, staff, M&H trained third party	Staff being required to adopt poor postures whilst attempting to refit sling to Learner in the water resulting in MSD injury to staff member.	Med-15	Where assessed as necessary 2 staff members or staff member and trained third party (e.g. external 1:1 support) will be used to refit sling in the water to ensure good posture can be maintained and the workload shared.		Low-5
<p>High likelihood of risk – Likely to occur immediately or in the near future Medium likelihood of risk – will occur in time if no preventative action is taken Low likelihood of risk – Remote or unlikely to occur</p>						

Date Reviewed	Comments
Initial assessment – Nov 2016	Updated by S.Lotriet when started new position
Nov 2017	
April 2018	Annual update
April 2019	Annual update – updated format
May 2020	Annual update
Sept 2020	Covid 19 amendments
November 2021	Annual update
March 2022	Updated due to accident during a fire drill
Nov 2022	Annual update – added incident with wet person in the water
Jan 2023	Updated to account for periods of the ARJO trolley being out of action
Nov 2024	Annual update

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