

Curriculum activity risk assessment

Water Skiing

clever • skilled • creative

Activity scope

This document relates to student participation in waterskiing activities as a curriculum activity.

Risk level

The actual risk level will vary according to the specific circumstances of the activity; these must be considered when assessing the inherent risk level and planning the activity. As a starting point, ask the following questions:



- What students will be involved?
- What will the students be doing?
- What will the students be using?
- Where will the students be?
- Who will be leading the activity?

Inherent risk level		Action required / approval
<input type="checkbox"/>	High	Likely chance of a serious incident and injury requiring medical treatment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <i>Curriculum Activity Risk Assessment</i> is required to be completed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Principal or delegated Deputy Principal or Head of Program (i.e. HOD, HOSES, HOC) to review and approve risk assessment. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Obtaining parental permission is recommended. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Once approved, activity details are to be entered into the <i>School Curriculum Activity Register</i>.

Teachers / leaders:

Activity description:

Start date:

Finish date:

No of students (approx.):

Class groups:

Supervision ratio (approx.):

Listed below are the 'minimum' recommendations for this type of activity. For any items checked 'No', provide further information on the additional or alternate controls to be implemented for the safe conduct of the activity.

Minimum supervision

Adequate adult supervision is to be provided — consider the following: the number of students, their individual needs, and the nature of the activity. Other supervisors should be selected from those most suitable for this particular activity. Before they depart, the supervisors should be informed of their role, potential hazards and precautions to be taken.

When planning any outdoor activity, the ratio of qualified, experienced leaders to dependent participants needs to be considered.

In certain situations, judgement may dictate smaller or larger numbers of participants per leader.

Several variables can affect this decision, including but not limited to:

- outcomes of the risk management process
- the leaders' experience
- participants' expected capabilities (i.e. experience, competence, fitness)
- conditions (environment, weather)
- planned duration of the activity
- number of participants and optimum group size
- remoteness of the activity
- suitability and availability of equipment.

Registered teacher with minimum qualifications as outlined below

OR

An adult with minimum qualifications as outlined below, in the presence of a registered teacher

Further information:

Minimum qualifications

The qualifications listed in this section are minimums for each type of situation. Leaders are encouraged to seek training to raise their qualification level above the minimum listed.

Current first aid qualifications including Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) or ready access to first aid facilities, including qualified personnel.

[Blue Card](#) requirements met

Demonstrated skills and currency that meet the leadership, group management, technical capacities and safety requirements (including familiarity of the environment, emergency procedures by all adult participants) of the specific circumstances being addressed

An adult present with the ability to effect the recovery of a student from the water at the venue

Power boat driver:

- Experience approved by the principal and leader
- Holds a current powerboat licence
- Has knowledge of the signals used when water skiing
- Is a member of the Australian Waterski and Wakeboard Federation

Observer:

- Experience approved by the principal and leader
- Has knowledge of the signals used when water skiing

Minimum qualifications

The qualifications listed in this section are minimums for each type of situation. Leaders are encouraged to seek training to raise their qualification level above the minimum listed.

- 'On-shore' supervisor:
- Experience approved by the principal and leader

High

For a registered teacher:

- Accredited L1 coach in water skiing
AND
- competence (demonstrated ability) in the teaching of water skiing and wakeboarding.
- OR**

For a leader other than a registered teacher:

- Another adult with qualifications (accredited L1 Coach in water skiing)
L1 accreditation can be obtained by contacting the AWWF where recognition of prior learning can apply

A teacher could demonstrate their competency through their:

- knowledge of the activity and the associated hazards and risks
- experience (i.e. previous involvement) in undertaking the activity
- demonstrated ability and/or expertise to undertake the activity
- possession of qualifications related to the activity.

Further information:

Minimum equipment/facilities If checked 'No', provide further information	Yes	No
First aid kit suitable for activity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication system: <input type="checkbox"/> phone-line at location <input type="checkbox"/> walkie talkies/UHF Radio <input type="checkbox"/> mobile phone <input type="checkbox"/> student/adult messenger Other:		
Sun safety equipment (hat, sunscreen, shirt etc)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wetsuit pants for female participants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Powerboat that conforms to Department of Transport regulations Maritime Safety Queensland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal flotation devices of the type approved by Standards Australia 4758.1-2008. Each should be checked for correct fit before each ski run	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drinking water (students should not share drinking containers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Further information:		

Governing bodies/associations	Yes	No
For water ski competition the Governing body Waterski Queensland will be able to provide assistance as required and in most cases can 'sanction' the event	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Further information:		

Hazards and suggested control measures

All persons engaging in this activity should:

- identify the hazards, including any additional hazards not mentioned here
- assess their significance
- manage the potential risks.

Listed below are indicative hazards/risks and suggested control measures. They are by no means exhaustive lists. After checking these, add details of any other identified hazards/risks and additional controls you intend to implement.

Hazards/risks	Control measures	Yes	No	Implementation plan / additional controls
Environmental conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weather • Surfaces • Surrounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess weather conditions before and during activity (temperature, storms etc.) • Select ski location having regard for the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ depth of water ○ tidal flow ○ currents ○ visibility ○ water temperature ○ underwater vegetation ○ marine life ○ protection from watercraft • Thoroughly check for floating debris before each session 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of drowning • Submersion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure suitability and competency of students • Ensure all students are wearing life jackets • Tow only a single skier • Do not 'drop off' skiers in shallow water • Ensure start and 'drop off' areas are clear of swimmers 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Hazards/risks	Control measures	Yes	No	Implementation plan / additional controls
Biological material <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Body fluids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adhere to Infection Control Guideline 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Animal bites/diseases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquatic animals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adhere to the Surf Life Saving Queensland Marine Stinger Risk Management Guidelines 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special needs High-risk behaviours Medical conditions Student numbers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain parental permission, including relevant medical information When students with medical conditions are involved, ensure that relevant medical / emergency plans and medications are readily available. (i.e. insulin, ventolin, epipen, etc.) Refer to Individual Education Plan/Educational Adjustment Plan/Behaviour Management Plan and other student documents Where necessary, obtain advise from relevant advisory visiting teachers or specialist teachers Ensure adequate adult supervision 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Noise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loud and/or continuous from boat motor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear personal protective equipment where necessary. Refer to Health and Safety Fact Sheet: Hearing Protection for Manual Arts, Industrial Technology & Design Teachers and Teacher-aides and Noise Code of Practice 2004 Ensure power boat has mufflers fitted to reduce noise level 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Physical exertion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cramps Sprains and strains Fatigue and exhaustion Speed of boat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead appropriate warm-up and warm-down activities Continuously monitor students for signs of fatigue and exhaustion Ensure progressive and sequential skill development Develop students' confidence and ability to float in deep water while wearing a buoyancy vest before they participate in water skiing 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Hazards/risks	Control measures	Yes	No	Implementation plan / additional controls
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruct in technique, signals and safety procedures Keep boat speed to level suitable for students 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Vehicles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continually assess threat of vehicles Consult appropriate documents, such as zoning plans produced by the Department of Environment and Resource Management or other relevant authority Have proof of registration and insurance with water skiers liability Ensure boat is equipped with all safety equipment as required by Maritime Safety Qld 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Additional control measures

These would relate to the specific student needs, location and conditions in which you are conducting your activity.

Hazards/risks	Control measures

Submitted by:

Date:

Indicate the names of those who were involved in the preparation of this risk assessment.

Approval	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Approved as submitted:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Approved with the following condition(s):
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not approved for the following reason(s):
By:	Designation:
Signed:	Date:
Once approved, activity details should be entered into the School Curriculum Activity Register by administrative staff.	Reference no.

Monitor and review <i>To be completed during and/or after the activity and/or at the completion of the series of activities.</i>	Yes	No
Are the control measures still effective?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have there been any changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are further actions required?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Details:		

Important links

- HLS-PR-012: Curriculum Activity Risk Management
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/health/hlspr012/>
- HLS-PR-003: First Aid
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/health/hlspr003/>
- HLS-PR-004: Infection Control and Management of Prescribed Contagious Conditions
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/health/hlspr004/>
- HLS-PR-005: Health and Safety Incident Reporting and Notification
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/health/hlspr005/>
- SCM-PR-002: School Excursions
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/schools/scmpr002/>
- HLS-PR-013: Developing a Sun Safety Strategy
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/health/hlspr013/>
- Infection Control Guideline
http://education.qld.gov.au/health/pdfs/healthsafety/infection_control_guideline.pdf
- Surf Life Saving Queensland Marine Stinger Risk Management Guidelines
<http://www.thesurfclub.com.au/slsc/documents/MarineStingerRiskManagement23-08-08FINAL.pdf>
- Department of Environment and Resource Management
<http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/>
- Health and Safety Fact Sheet: Hearing Protection for Manual Arts, Industrial Technology & Design Teachers and Teacher-aides
<http://education.qld.gov.au/health/pdfs/healthsafety/hearing-protection-factsheet.pdf>
- Noise Code of Practice 2004
http://www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/resources/pdfs/noise_code2004.pdf
- Department of Transport
<http://www.transport.qld.gov.au/Home/Registration/Boats/>
- HRM-PR-010: Working with Children Check - Blue Cards
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/hr/hrmpr010/>
- Australian Waterski and Wakeboard Federation.
<http://awwf.com.au>

Further information

For further information on incorporating risk management strategies into curriculum activity planning refer to [HLS-PR-012 Managing Risks in Curriculum Activities](#) and the associated list of [Curriculum Activity Risk Assessment Guidelines](#).* (*<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/health/hlspr012/index1.html>)

For further support with risk management training and advice, contact trained staff in schools such as Workplace Health and Safety Officers (WHSOs) and Workplace Health and Safety Representatives (WHSRs), and regional staff such as Senior Health and Safety Consultants.