

Peninsula Outdoors Risk Management Plan Snorkelling

The list below incorporates some of the risks associated with snorkelling.

Please note: the list below is not all encompassing and some associated risks may not have been identified.

Risk Description	Existing Controls	Rating		
		Effectiveness of existing controls	Risk Consequences	Risk Likelihood
Low skill level and water ability of participants and visiting leaders/ teachers leading to difficulties in the water, fear, panic and potential drowning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All participants to participate in a theory and pool or shallow water “beach teach’ session before first snorkel. Poor snorkelling skills, poor swimmers, and low water competence participants to be positively buoyant (wet suit) and NO weight belt 	Satisfactory	Moderate	Likely
Shallow water blackout, hyperbaric injuries (e.g., ear drum damage or rupture)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All participants to participate in a theory and pool or shallow water “beach teach’ session before first snorkel. Participants are warned about hyperventilation risks. Participants are warned about the risks of duck diving if they have a cold or congestion Equalisation techniques taught and practised 	Satisfactory	Major	Unlikely
Participants becoming separated from ‘buddy’, the group and leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All participants to participate in a theory and pool or shallow water “beach teach’ session before first snorkel. Buddy system is reinforced during formative training Leaders brightly coloured rash vest so they are easily identified. Instructor & skipper to conduct head counts before leaving each location 	Satisfactory	Major	Unlikely

<p>Poor behaviour of participants on shore leading to injury or potentially endangering other participants.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants will be briefed on what is expected of them in terms of behaviour to ensure safe participation. • Participants not participating directly in snorkelling must be directly supervised 1:10 by visiting teachers / leaders. If supervision is not available the participant/s will need to either participate or be collected and supervised at the campsite. • Potentially dangerous behaviour will not be tolerated. If after being warned, behaviour does not improve the activity may need to be modified or cancelled. • It is the responsibility of the school representative to monitor the behaviour of students. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Likely</p>
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Risk Description	Existing Controls	Rating		
		Effectiveness of existing controls	Risk Consequences	Risk Likelihood
<p>Wind, rough seas or currents create dangerous/difficult conditions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review weather and dive location conditions prior to activity and continually monitor conditions. • Assess students' ability to cope with increasingly difficult conditions. • Group will stay within close proximity to allow for required communication between leader and group. • Maintain and constantly monitor distance from shoreline, exit point or boat so that participants can travel easily if conditions worsen. • Cancel snorkel sessions if conditions are unsuitable. • Participants with no experience and unable to swim will be recommended not to participate. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Major</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>

<p>Exposure to extreme weather conditions (including wet, cold and windy or heat and sun) potentially leading to illness such as hypo or hyperthermia, extreme sun burn, heat exhaustion or heat stroke.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review weather conditions prior to activity • Monitor temperature and shorten, relocate or adjust activity as required • Ensure sufficient water and food is provided for the activity and participants are briefed on general strategies to stay hydrated. • Ensure appropriate, adequate equipment / clothing and protection against elements is worn before and during activity • Seek sheltered if conditions worsen. • Observe participant's condition during activity. • Consideration of wind chill factor if wind is present • Cancel activity if conditions are such that activity cannot be conducted safely and participation will place participants in extreme danger. • 30 / 30 rule is applied during thunderstorms / electrical storms. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>
<p>Damaged equipment or poorly fitting wetsuits, masks or fins causing injury or illness e.g., hypothermia.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment will be checked regularly for damage and maintained to a high standard. • A variety of sizes of wetsuit will be offered to ensure participants wear correctly fitting wetsuit. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Rare</p>

Risk Description	Existing Controls	Rating		
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<p>Participant or staff are impacted by fixed object like a jetty or pier</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants are briefed on the dive plan and warned about fixed objects. • Wetsuits are worn to provide some protection • Reinforce look up, hand up when surfacing to recognise and avoid object 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Minor</p>	<p>Likely</p>

Participant or staff are impacted by moving object like a motorboat, jet ski or board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants are briefed on the dive plan and warned about boat traffic objects. • A dive flag is deployed if the planned dive is an area where boat traffic is likely. 	Satisfactory	Minor	Likely
Boat snorkels to Popes Eye, Chinaman's Hat and other boat dive locations. Risks include, but are not limited to; entry & exit from dive boats, contact with boat or propeller, marine animal injury, currents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants are briefed on the dive plan and warned about boat traffic and other dangers. • A dive flag is deployed if the planned dive is an area where boat traffic is likely. • A minimum of 5m from the Chinaman's Hat structure & keeping arms/ hands close to body when interacting with the seals • ALWAYS follow the Skipper's instructions when on a dive boat • Boat must be stopped and engines off when participants are entering and exiting the boat. • The Leader of each activity group must enter the water before participants and only on the approval of the boat Skipper. • 	Satisfactory	Major	Unlikely
Participant or staff member is stung or bitten by marine animal or ant, bee, spider etc, and leading to swelling or anaphylactic reaction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure staff are aware of any allergies, specifically anaphylactic students. • Medications should be carried at all times in close proximity to participant. • Evacuation procedure should be well known by staff. • Communications will be always carried and available. • First aid kits available • Leaders are aware of appropriate first aid for marine animal injuries. 	Satisfactory	Major	Unlikely