

Risk Assessment for school visits to The Living Rainforest, RG18 0TN – (011)



- **Please read in conjunction with the risk assessment letter accompanying your booking paperwork**

Assessment undertaken: October 2020

Assessment review date: October 2021

Location	Description of Hazard	Likelihood	Seriousness	Control measures in place
Car Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal injury through slips, trips & falls • Personal injury by impact with vehicles (cars, coaches, service vehicles) 	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers and parents/carers required to supervise the pupils throughout the time in the car park • All TLR Staff to give verbal warning if inappropriate behaviour spotted • Daily “Signed” inspections of paths and walkways • Staff trained in Health & Safety procedures. They know who to go to for First Aid and where First Aid kits are. Duty managers are “appointed” persons and are qualified in First Aid. • Speed limit signs in force • Code of pupil behaviour agreed with teacher and children before visit
Throughout The Living Rainforest Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal injury through slips, trips & falls • Damage to exhibits 	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Health and Safety inspections of paths, steps and walkways • School supervising leaders to be aware that hoses may occasionally be present on pathways- school staff to be given verbal warning before tour if the risk is present • Staff trained in Health & Safety procedures. They know who to go to for First Aid and where First Aid Kits are. Duty managers are “appointed” persons and are qualified in First Aid. • Staff aware of DBS policies and vigilant of child protection measures • Key education team staff and duty managers readily available during opening hours • Trained tour guides available on all school tours – tour sizes kept to a suitable level & teacher/group leaders given instruction on pre-visit information to supervise group at all times • All accompanying adults and children to be present during the welcome and health and safety introduction given by education staff • All adults present are required to adhere to information given at the health and safety briefing

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers, parents and carers to supervise and be responsible for pupils behavior at all times whilst onsite, including during tours and free time in the glasshouses. Tour guides and education staff to give verbal warning if inappropriate behavior spotted TLR and teaching staff to enforce no running in the rainforest staff and pupils are not to climb on rockwork or exhibits Warning notices provided in the event of slippery surfaces Code of pupil behaviour agreed with teacher and children before visit
Throughout The Living Rainforest Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possibility of abduction/ assault by member of the public 	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On site emergency and child protection procedures in place School staff responsible for location and supervision of their group at all times CCTV in operation in the shop, café and entrance walkway Code of pupil behaviour agreed with teacher and children before visit
Throughout The Living Rainforest Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal injury through fire 	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily & weekly countersigned inspections of emergency signage. Checks for obstructions to paths, steps and walkways. All areas kept tidy and debris-free Staff trained in Health & Safety procedures. They know who to go to for First Aid and where First Aid Kits are. Duty managers are “appointed” persons and are qualified in First Aid. Three monthly full evacuation procedures logged and monitored Evacuation procedure set out in documents that accompany the pre-visit information to be read by all accompanying adults prior to visit The Living Rainforest is fully compliant with current fire regulations Smoking is not permitted in the buildings and discouraged in the garden and car park. Staff to give immediate verbal warning if inappropriate behavior spotted General safety measures given to school before visit External lighting is provided during winter months from 4pm Code of pupil behavior agreed with teacher and children before visit All accompanying adults and children to be present during the welcome and health and safety introduction given by education staff Evacuation procedure covered during the welcome and health and safety introduction given by education staff
The Living Rainforest Toilets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal injury through slips, trips & falls Scalding from hot water 	Low	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toilets cleaned daily and inspected on a regular basis by staff Procedures in place for cleaning up spillages Locks can always be opened from outside by staff Staff trained in Health & Safety procedures. They know who to go to for First Aid and where First Aid Kits are. Duty managers are “appointed” persons and are qualified in First Aid Staff supervising reception and shop/café area when open to the public

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to unlock door • Misbehaviour • Risk of abduction by member of the public • Need for adult assistance 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warning signs are supplied in the toilets • Children to be supervised by teachers and parents/carers when using toilet • On site emergency and child protection procedures in place • School staff responsible for location and supervision of their group at all times • Tour guides and education staff to give verbal warning if inappropriate behaviour spotted • Code of pupil behaviour agreed with teacher and children before visit • Adults and children to use the designated pathways to the toilets to minimize incident risk of contact with hot food and drink in the café area • School staff responsible for supervision of their group at all times (Including toilet breaks)
Human Impact Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of slips, trips and falls 	Med	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Door ledges slightly raised-tripping hazard- yellow lines drawn on floor as a warning • The human impact building is cleared daily in order to ensure that food and drink left by schools is disposed of correctly in order to avoid slipping hazards
Rainforest Glasshouses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broken Glass • Risk of drowning from waterfalls, pools and aquaria 	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff trained in Health & Safety procedures. They know who to go to for First Aid and where First Aid Kits are. Duty managers are “appointed” persons and are qualified in First Aid • Daily & weekly countersigned inspections of glasshouses • Teachers/ adult helpers to advise centre staff if any glass is spotted • Deep water signs on barrier make the areas where care is needed clear • All accompanying adults and children to be present during the welcome and health and safety introduction given by education staff • Teachers, parents and carers to supervise and be responsible for pupils behavior at all times whilst onsite, including during tours and free time in the glasshouses. • All areas of risk have a barrier apart from the main pond where extra care should be taken • Staff and children to stay on designated pathways • Code of pupil behaviour agreed with teacher and children before visit
Rainforest Glasshouses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High temperature and humidity 	Low	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drinking water fountain located outside rainforest area • Staff trained in Health & Safety procedures. They know who to go to for First Aid and where First Aid Kits are. Duty managers are “appointed” persons and are qualified in First Aid • Appropriate clothing be worn and plenty of fluids drunk • Children asked during induction, if feeling unwell or faint tell a member of staff • Teachers to allow adequate “fresh air” breaks in hot weather.
Rainforest Plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal injury through 	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily & weekly countersigned inspections of warning signs • Staff and children to stay on designated pathways • Staff trained in Health & Safety procedures. They know who to go to for First Aid

	<p>contact with Poisonous /irritating leaves, flowers, stems e.g. Dumb Cane</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible allergic reactions 			<p>and where First Aid Kits are. Duty managers are “appointed” persons and are qualified in First Aid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All accompanying adults and children to be present during the welcome and health and safety introduction given by education staff where presence of potentially hazardous plants is indicated • Teachers, parents and carers to supervise and be responsible for pupils behavior at all times whilst onsite, including during tours and free time in the glasshouses. • Pupils to be discouraged by accompanying adults from touching the plants • Hand washing facilities provided and children encouraged to wash hands after exiting glasshouses by guides and teachers • Tour guides and education staff to give verbal warning if inappropriate behaviour spotted • Code of pupil behaviour agreed with teacher and children before visit • List of plants available in Duty Manager Folder and copy kept behind front desk.
Rainforest Animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal injury through contact with free-ranging animals • Possible allergic reactions • Risk of disease from touching certain animals • Upset, fear, phobia 	Low	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free-ranging animals may peck or bite. Warning signs identify dangers • Any distressed or injured animals to be reported to TLR staff immediately (No attempt should be made to handle them) • There should be no touching of the animals by pupils at any time • Teachers, parents and carers to supervise and be responsible for pupils behavior at all times whilst onsite, including during tours and free time in the glasshouses. • Daily & weekly countersigned inspections of warning signs & all enclosures • Barriers prevent public access to all enclosures • Staff trained in Health & Safety procedures. They know who to go to for First Aid and where First Aid Kits are. Duty managers are “appointed” persons and are qualified in First Aid • All accompanying adults and children to be present during the welcome and health and safety introduction given by education staff where schools are made aware not to touch free ranging animals and birds • Hand washing facilities provided and children encouraged to wash hands after exiting glasshouses by guides and teachers • TLR staff to give verbal warning if inappropriate behaviour spotted • Code of pupil behaviour agreed with teacher and children before visit
Shop area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal injury through slips, trips & falls • Theft or damage to shop stock 	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular housekeeping of shop • Staff trained in Health & Safety procedures. They know who to go to for First Aid and where First Aid Kits are. Duty managers are “appointed” persons and are qualified in First Aid • Staff aware of child protection measures • Staff supervising reception area and shop when open to the public • Teachers, parents and carers to supervise and be responsible for pupils behavior

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for adult assistance 			<p>at all times whilst onsite and advised to bring pupils in small accompanied groups when visiting shop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shop theft policy and procedures in place • CCTV in operation • Tour guides and education staff to give verbal warning if inappropriate behaviour spotted • Code of pupil behaviour agreed with teacher and children before visit • Schools wishing to use the shop will be required to divide classes into smaller groups to avoid overcrowding. School staff will also be required to supervise pupil behavior.
Café	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scalding from hot drinks • Food allergies 	Low	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School groups advised to bring own packed lunch • Staff trained in Health & Hygiene procedures • Regular and daily housekeeping procedures followed • Procedures in place for cleaning up spillages • Public are not allowed behind food/drinks counter • Café sells specific gluten-free snacks. No other guarantees are given regarding the content of snacks • Teachers to ensure that any members of their group who have allergies or special dietary requirements bring their own food (and notify TSL if severe allergies to discuss action plan needed) • Tour guides, café staff or education staff to give verbal warning if inappropriate behaviour spotted
Play Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal injury through slips, trips & falls 	Low	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily & weekly countersigned inspections of paths, steps, walkways and play equipment. The area is kept tidy and debris-free • Regular equipment review and maintenance • Staff trained in Health & Safety procedures. They know who to go to for First Aid and where First Aid Kits are. Duty managers are “appointed” persons and are qualified in First Aid • Equipment chosen for its high standard and child protection ROSPA inspected • All fall-arrest equipment to current specification and inspected daily • All accompanying adults and children to be present during the welcome and health and safety introduction given by education staff • Teachers, parents and carers to supervise and be responsible for pupils behavior at all times whilst onsite, including during tours, free time in the glasshouses and play area. • School staff to give verbal warning if inappropriate behaviour spotted • Code of pupil behaviour agreed with teacher and children before visit

Additional points:

- ***For COVID-19 specific risk details please see our separate COVID-19 risk assessment***
- As supervision and pupil behavior are the responsibility of the school staff we request a suitable ratio of teachers/ group leaders/ parents/ carers to children:
 - For primary groups: Minimum of 2 teachers to 15 children
 - For secondary school groups: Minimum of 2 teachers to 15 children
- For children suffering with allergies it is the teachers' responsibility for adequate supervision and care. NB Nut allergies: Some animals are fed nuts infrequently in their diet and the feed mixes used for our free ranging species are not produced in a guaranteed nut free environment and may be located throughout the glasshouses.
- A Brazil nut pod is used for demonstration during some of our guided tours. It is the teachers' responsibility to inform The Living Rainforest Education staff prior to your visit regarding any medical conditions or allergies and to bring any appropriate medication to be held by the schools nominated first aider.
- Teachers and pupils should be aware that our animals are fed after school visiting hours; however uneaten pieces of food may remain visible in the animal enclosures. This may cause distress as some species including our snakes and monitor are fed dead rodents.
- Individuals or groups that do not follow the Health & Safety information given may be asked to leave the glasshouses by a member of the LTR Staff in the interests of Safety
- We are happy for you to use the following information to assist you in carrying out a risk assessment of our site, but would like to make it clear that these are guidance notes only. Responsibility for carrying out a full risk assessment for your school's visit to the Living Rainforest remains with the school. These notes should not be used in place of that assessment.

NAME OF ASSESSOR: Rupert West

DATE: 28.10.20

POSITION: Operations Manager

REVIEW DATE: 27.10.21

NAME OF ASSESSOR: Rachel Richards

DATE: 28.10.20

POSITION: Education Development Officer

REVIEW DATE: 27.10.21