**Wild as Well - Risk Assessments**

**RISK ASSESSMENT MATRIX**

| **HARM (SEVERITY)** 🡺  **PROBABILITY (likelihood)** 🡻 | **Slightly**  **harmful** | **Harmful** | **Very**  **harmful** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rarely** | **Low**  **Risk** | **Tolerable**  **Risk** | **Moderate**  **Risk** |
| **Sometimes** | **Tolerable**  **Risk** | **Moderate**  **Risk** | **Substantial**  **Risk** |
| **Often** | **Moderate**  **Risk** | **Substantial**  **Risk** | **High**  **Risk** |

**Appendix 1:** Risk Management

Example Risk Assessment for outdoor location (private woodland hire)

| Risk assessment for Cavendish Blackwoods, 479 Hucknall Rd, Nottingham NG5 1FW  Nearest A&E: QMC, Derby Road Nottingham NG7 2UH  Tel: 0115 924 9924  Emergency contact No’s: 999/111 | Facilitator: Kate Whyatt (trading as Wild as Well)  What3words: //await.frogs.waits  Grid Ref: SK 56518 43492 52°59′09″N , 001°09′34″W | Session Dates:  Description of event: |
| --- | --- | --- |

**Site and weather risk assessment**

| **Hazard** | **Possible Harm** | **To Whom** | **Probability** | **Severity** | **Risk Rating** | **Mitigation for this** | **Risk Rating after mitigation** | **Who will manage?** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Slip and trip | Broken limbs Twists | all | Rarely | Harmful | Tolerable Risk | Pre-session site visit to check muddy areas, animal holes, any slip and trip hazards  Share information with client group of any known hazards  Ongoing dynamic risk assessment of area and of participants ability to manage risk  First aid kit | Tolerable Risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* is a certified Outdoor First Aider (trained November 2022) |
| Fire | Burns | all | Rarely | Harmful | Tolerable Risk | Clear agreement between Facilitator & PPTs on fire safety   * Fire only for warmth and focal point. * No fire building or tending activities offered to attendees. * Fire not to be left unattended by Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* (or other insured co-facilitator if working with large group)   Dynamic risk assessment throughout time PPTs are on site while fire is lit - reminders of agreement as and when required  Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* is a certified Outdoor First Aider (trained November 2022)  First aid kit  Depending on severity of burn (partial thickness burns over 1% body area, all full thickness burns or burns to face, hands, feet, genitals or that extend around the limb) emergency 999 assistance will be called immediately. | Low Risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* |
| Animal Faeces | Ingestion and sickness | all | Rarely | Harmful | Tolerable Risk | Private woodland - no pets or livestock  Pre-session site visit to check area and update risk assessment to share with client groups  Dynamic risk assessment  Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* is a certified Outdoor First Aider (trained November 2022)  First Aid Kit | Low risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* |
| Branches falling | Cuts and scrapes, broken limbs, head injuries, concussion, death | all | Rarely | Very Harmful | Moderate Risk | Woodland management by site.  Pre-session site visit - check area for diseased or hanging branches and share with PPTs  Awareness of recent weather conditions (electrical storms and high winds) - if the site is not currently suitable or safe, sessions to be cancelled while work is carried out by site maintenance. Alternative site to be found if possible.  Dynamic risk assessment which includes sharing risk to PPT and advice to avoid certain areas  First aid kit  Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* is a certified Outdoor First Aider (trained November 2022 | Tolerable Risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* in conjunction with site |
| Fungi and berries | Ingestion leading to poisoning causing sickness, diarrhoea, vomiting or death | all | Rarely | Very Harmful | Moderate Risk | Facilitators to learn what potential risks on site by doing full reconnaissance  Clear explanation by facilitators of risk and advisePPT not to pick berries for creative work or to eat  PPTs reminded to wash hands before eating (indoors bathroom with soap and hot water)  Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* is a certified Outdoor First Aider (trained November 2022  First aid kit | Low Risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* |
| Thorn bushes | Torn clothes, scratches, infected wounds | all | Sometimes | Slightly Harmful | Moderate Risk | Pre-site visit to assess risk and share info with PPT regarding what areas and types of bushes to be aware of or avoid  Advise PPT to wash with soap and water before applying antiseptic and dressing  Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* is a certified Outdoor First Aider (trained November 2022  First Aid Kit | Tolerable Risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* |
| Kitchen area | Burns from boiling water for hot drinks | all | Rarely | Slightly Harmful | Low Risk | Indoor kitchen with standard kettle (PAT tested by site management)  PPT to bring own hot drinks as part of agreement  First Aid Kit  Advise PPT to hold under cold running water for approx 10 mins (on repeat)  Depending on severity of burn (partial thickness burns over 1% body area, all full thickness burns or burns to face, hands, feet, genitals or that extend around the limb) emergency 999 assistance will be called immediately. | Low Risk | Facilitators/  PPT |
| Weather | Discomfort, too cold, too hot, sunburn, heavy rain | all | Sometimes | Harmful | Moderate risk | Advise PPT on initial marketing to dress appropriately for the weather  Advise wearing of suntan cream, hats and long sleeves in hot sunny weather  Awareness of forecast weather conditions - and use shady areas if too hot/sunny and use of indoor space if needed to do circle and sharing work, continue to use outdoor space for practice sessions if possible  Dynamic risk assessment to determine whether weather is too extreme for all parties to continue (or for session to take place).  Awareness of possibility for dehydration, heat exhaustion and heat stroke if extreme heat forecast or risk of hypothermia if too cold - session to be cancelled if deemed too high risk to PPTs and facilitator.  Session cancelled if electrical storms or winds over maximum 30 miles per hour forecast (however dynamic risk assessment to determine risk of outdoor work in lower but still powerful winds) | Tolerable Risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* |
| Specific Activities | Using apple corers | cuts to hand from slipping | rarely | Slightly harmful | Tolerable risk | Demonstrate safe usage  First aid kit  Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* is certified Outdoor First Aider | Tolerable Risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* |

**Ecological damage Risk**

| **Hazard** | **Possible Harm** | **To What** | **Probability** | **Severity** | **Rating** | **Mitigation for this** | **Who will manage?** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Damage | Breaking something | Indoors facilities, gate | Rarely | Slightly Harmful | Low Risk | Reconnaissance of site prior to session and report any signs of damage to site management  Advise PPTs to take care of property and notify Facilitators of any damage | Facilitators/PPT/Site management |
| Rubbish | Ingestion or getting caught in plastic | Wildlife | Sometimes | Slightly Harmful | Moderate Risk | Remind PPTs to take rubbish home with them  Check site after participants leave and take rubbish home | Facilitators/PPT |
| Wildlife | Nests/sets/pond damaged or disturbed | Wildlife | Rarely | Slightly Harmful | Moderate Risk | Remind PPTs to be careful of nesting birds etc and treat environment with respect | Facilitators |

**Psychological, emotional and social risk from interventions**.

| **Hazard** | **Possible Harm** | **To whom** | **Probability** | **Severity** | **Rating** | **Mitigation for this** | **Risk Rating after Mitigation** | **Who will manage?** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Psychological | Recurrence/retriggering of any psychological trauma or illness | all | Sometimes | Harmful | Moderate Risk | Initial chat/risk assessment for each PPT to determine any underlying health needs and any medication taken to support this health need, and discuss with PPT if they are managing symptoms/feeling well supported to attend course  Activities and interventions to be designed around relaxation, resourcing and revitalising outcomes to be focused on.  Dynamic risk assessment on PPTs psychological presentation. Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* is a skilled and experienced social work practitioner specialising in mental health, neurodiversity and learning disabilities.  Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* has completed three years of eco-pyschological and eco-therapeutic training; accesses regular monthly supervision and peer mentor support; participates in Continuing Professional Development and reflective practice.  If referral from health and social care staff, a full risk assessment to be completed with the consent of the PPT. Acceptance of referrals will depend on risk management possibility based on a risk vs benefit assessment.  PPT will be supported by Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* to stay safe and any early warning signs will be tracked and deescalation/regulating techniques to be introduced.  If PPT experiences psychosis or deterioration of mental health illness regardless of mitigation practices implemented, assistance from next of kin, Crisis Team, local Crisis Sanctuary and AMPH teams will be called upon (dynamic risk assessment to determine the pathway needed). If PPT becomes a risk to self or others, AMPH team, police (requesting mental health street triage team) will be called to ensure the safety of others. | Tolerable Risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* in partnership with PPT and other involved agencies |
| Emotional | During NatureWell training and participation:  Overwhelm of emotions particularly grief or rage due to deepening awareness and space to observe feelings (for staff this could include challenges in personal and professional life; burn out after working on front line through pandemic) | Staff PPTs | Sometimes | Slightly Harmful | Tolerable Risk | Group agreement to support each other, that this is not therapy and own therapist should be sought if needed  Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well*  to keep within objective to resource, relax and restore PPTs and therefore not open up deep feelings, return PPTs to wholeness at end of session  Signposting to local organisations that can support with specific need (i.e. bereavement, domestic abuse, substance misuse etc)  Ongoing 1:1 work with Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* on offer to staff to support with ongoing grief and trauma responses. Support designed to build resilience through processing and integration within ecotherapeutic model | Tolerable Risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* |
| Social | Feelings of shame, feelings of persecution by group | all | Sometimes | Harmful | Moderate Risk | Group agreement  Confidentiality agreement  Create circle of trust and support within group  Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* to hold a strong supportive space and be in constant attunement with the group to pick up on any group unease. Deescalation skills to be implemented by Facilitator early on to ensure repair to ruptured relationship/s | Tolerable Risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* |

**Covid 19 Risk assessment**

| **Hazard** | **Possible Harm** | **To whom** | **Probability** | **Severity** | **Rating** | **Mitigation for this** | **Risk Rating after mitigation** | **Who will manage?** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Social Distance not kept indoors (no legal requirement to do so) | Infection transmitted to others | all | Sometimes | Harmful | Moderate Risk | All activities take place in outdoor space.  Anyone who tests positive for Covid will be asked to not attend until they are testing negative and no longer shedding virus (minimum of one week after testing positive)  If any members of the group are presenting with symptoms but have tested negative for Covid - will be asked to remain outside at all times except for use of the toilet.  Toilet window to be kept open along with external doors to inside space for good ventilation. | Low risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* with full participation of group |
| Hygiene procedures not followed | Infection transmitted to others | all | Sometimes | Harmful | Moderate Risk | All activities take place in outdoor space.  Anyone with who tests positive for Covid will be asked to not attend until they are testing negative and no longer shedding virus (minimum of one week after testing positive)  If any members of the group are presenting with symptoms but have tested negative - they will be asked to remain outside at all times except for use of the toilet.  Toilet window to be kept open along with external doors to inside space for good ventilation. | Tolerable Risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* with full participation of group |
| Symptoms of Covid 19 develop | Infection transmitted to others | all | Sometimes | Harmful | Moderate risk | All activities take place in outdoor space.  If any members of group are presenting with symptoms  - they will be asked to remain outside at all times except for use of the toilet.  Toilet window to be kept open along with external doors to inside space for good ventilation. | Tolerable Risk | Kate Whyatt trading as *Wild as Well* with full participation of group |

**Appendix 2. Lone Worker Risk Assessment**

| **Hazard** | **Possible Harm** | **To Whom** | **Probability** | **Severity** | **Rating** | **Mitigation** | **Further Notes** | **Risk Rating after mitigation** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PPT has an accident on site** | **Fractures, sprains, burns, poisoning; skin rashes; fainting** | **PPT** | **Rarely** | **Harmful** | **Tolerable Risk** | **Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well*) is a certified Outdoor First Aider (trained November 2022) and has a first aid kit in order to be able to attend to PPT in first instance before assessing whether emergency services are needed or whether next of kin need to be contacted in order to support PPT to return safely home or attend A&E.** | **Site risk assessment to be completed before working with PPT alongside dynamic risk assessment while working together.**  **Any avoidable risks such as tripping over a fallen branch, falling down a hole etc will be highlighted at start of work together and PPT will be advised and reminded to take all reasonable care.**  **Buddy system in place to contact if further advice or support is needed.** | **Tolerable Risk** |
| **PPT becomes seriously unwell and needs medical assistance** | **Physical or mental - deterioration of health; harm to self; distress; loss of consciousness; death** | **PPT** | **Rarely** | **Harmful** | **Tolerable Risk** | **Health and Safety assessment completed by all PPTs prior to work to highlight any possible health conditions that need managing and plan to be developed between Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well)* and PPT (includes all details of next of kin, medication)** | **Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well)* to have a fully charged mobile phone with network coverage as part of her ongoing risk management plan. To include all details of location, nearest hospital and hazards on site.**  **Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well)* certified in outdoor first aid (November 2022).**  **Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well*) to utilise the buddy system if additional support is needed while waiting for emergency services, or for other advice that is pertinent to the situation.** | **Tolerable Risk** |
| **PPT becomes agitated towards others** | **Physical or verbal attack on others; reaction of others that exacerbates agitation;** | **Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well*); PPTs; members of the public** | **Rarely** | **Harmful** | **Tolerable Risk** | **Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well*) is an experienced and skilled communicator who has worked in challenging and complex situations and dynamics and is trained in and able to use de-escalation tools to support the PPT to discharge the agitated energy safely ensuring all parties are given space to return to calm** | **Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well*) will at all times micro-track a person’s mood, behaviour and body language/facial expressions discerning before PPT reaches escalated phase to ensuring person is able to regulate their emotions through co-regulation with facilitator and nature.**  **Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well*) will work with PPT to be able to pendulate (return to present moment when ambushed with past trauma) and titrate (only experience as much sensation from accessing memories as is possible at a time) before returning to presence and resourcing**  **Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well*) will stay grounded and resourced by being fully engaged with her own practice; accessing therapy that supports her own wellness and accessing regular supervision and reflective practice in order to work with any challenges in her offer of ecopsycological support**  **Regular review and re-assessment and re-contracting of work between both parties to ensure safety and opportunity for all. Work can be discontinued at anytime by either party.** | **Low Risk** |
| **Members of public intimidating or disturbing the session** | **Intimidation or threat; actual bodily harm; humiliation or cruelty; curtailing session** | **All** | **Sometimes** | **Harmful** | **Moderate Risk** | **Use of private land where possible with locked gate and security measures in place**  **Full reconnaissance of public space prior to working there using space where both facilitator and PPT feel comfortable**  **Clear access and egress from location to open space near members of public** | **Dynamic risk assessment throughout work together to discern any early detection of risk from members of the public**  **Location chosen with safety in mind - ie. close to busy, main thoroughfare**  **Regular communication of potential of risk of working in a public space while at same time not causing more harm by raising stress of PPT - plan agreed to move away without any engagement with the perpetrators that may escalate their behaviours**  **Contacting 101 or 999 once moved to safe space to ensure that the perpetrators do not harm or intimidate others** | **Tolerable Risk** |
| **Facilitator becomes unwell or has an accident** | **Loss of consciousness; distress; fractures/sprains/poisoning** | **All** | **Rarely** | **Harmful** | **Tolerable Risk** | **Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well*) will take all reasonable measures to monitor her health and fitness and ability to work and will be responsible for general and dynamic risk assessment of site and own health** | **Buddy system in place - Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well)* will make contact and ask them to put into place prior agreed actions**  **PPT will seek assistance from member of public if required and emergency services if Kate Whyatt (trading as *Wild as Well* is unable to do so herself if needed** | **Low risk** |

*(Last updated November 2023)*