

# Record of General Assessment of Significant Risks

Sheet 1 of 2

Operational Activity: Risk assessment for school activity – Microscopy and Plant Transport Structures				Date of Assessment: 29.9.25 On this date the performance assessment for this activity, based on the further action required was:		
Site: RBG Kew <b>Wakehurst</b>		Department: Programmes and Learning	Unit: Learning Programme	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Black</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">Red</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: yellow; color: black; padding: 2px;">Amber</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px;">Green <b>X</b></div> </div>		
Assessor/s: Hayley Young Lead Teacher		Signed off by: Julie Whelan Learning Manager				
Item	Sub-activity	Risk rank (H,M,L)	People especially at risk* Students and their carers	Further action required	Person responsible	Action taken
	Hazard		Existing controls			
1	<u>Toluidine Blue</u> Exposure to chemicals	L	Small pre-measured volume and low concentration (1% w/v used therefore risk minimised.) Eye protection used	None	Wakehurst Teacher	
2	<u>Single edged razor blades or scalpels</u> Exposure to sharp blades	L	Teacher demonstrates safety use. Blades handed out when required and students stay seated whilst they are in use	None	Wakehurst Teacher	
3	<u>Coverslips and slides</u> Breakage resulting in sharp edges	L	Students instructed how to handle coverslips and slides. Students alert staff of breakages who will clear up and dispose of appropriately	None	Wakehurst Teacher	
4	<u>Plant material</u> Exposure to allergens -Allergic response to plant materials including sap	L	Students and school staff alerted to the plant species being used. Alternative species available if necessary	None	Wakehurst Teacher	

\*such as employees, public, contractors, young persons, pregnant women.

Date: Date to review October 2026

Black: Little or no provision for risk control.  
 Amber: A reasonable standard of control but some remaining issues require action.

Red: Risk control incomplete or implementation unsatisfactory.  
 Green: Risks minimised and a good standard of control achieved.

**RISK RANKING MATRIX**

Purpose: allocating action priorities for significant risks

Foreseeable consequences		Chance of exposure occurring					
Ill Health	Injury	Frequent	Probable	Occasional	Remote	Improbable	Incredible
Multiple fatalities	Multiple fatalities	H	H	H	M	L	
Single fatality	Single fatality	H	H	M	L		
Chronic or acute ill health	Major injury or permanent disability	H	M	L	No action required risk is insignificant or "tolerable"		
Minor health effects	Minor injury	M	L				
No known health effect	No injury						

Category definitions: \* chance of exposure

\*Chance = probability

Category	Definition
Frequent	The exposure occurs frequently during the normal course of the activity or process.
Probable	The exposure will occur several times during the activity or process.
Occasional	The exposure will occur occasionally during the activity or process.
Remote	There is a remote chance that the exposure will occur during the activity or process.
Improbable	The exposure is unlikely to occur. It will only occur exceptionally during the activity or process.
Incredible	The exposure is extremely unlikely to occur. It can be assumed that it may not occur.

Action Priorities for Significant Risks

H = High  
 M = Medium  
 L = Low