

Risk Assessment Activity – Offsite Climbing and Abseiling

Pioneer Centre	Assessed by: James Kniffen	Assessed:	Last Review /Next Review Date
		22/06/21	10/02/23 08/06/23

Overview: Offsite Climbing and Abseiling is delivered by a qualified Rock-Climbing Instructor (RCI) or higher and has responsibility for the day of delivery. Staffing Ratio 1:8 under instruction and at least two staff members present for the session and a 2:12 ratio if there are two or more qualified staff delivering the session. All appropriate personal protective equipment is worn during the session. Sessions normally take place in the same location (Llanymynech Quarry on Cul-de-Sac Quarry crag) and will only involve single pitch climbs that are covered by the RCI qualification. Annual inspections by AALA and Technical Advisor to ensure best practice is being used. And there are regular safety inspections of all technical equipment. A Parental consent form is filled in for each child participating which details medical details, emergency contact info, a participation statement outlining risks of participating.

Hazards	Groups of People at Risk from the Hazards Identified	Probability	Control Measures
Injury from falling or slipping on approach to climb or abseil	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Instructor to give clear instructions on how to approach. Instructors carefully supervise approaches and use appropriate techniques to safeguard against a slip.
		Major/Fatal	
		High	
Injury from falling whilst climbing due to not being belayed or not being tied in properly	Guest/participants	Unlikely	Instructor to ensure no one to climb without being belayed. Instructor to check clients tied in/clipped in properly before every climb or abseil. Instructor to belay or supervise group belaying with appropriate backups in place.
		Major/Fatal	
		High	
Injury from falling whilst climbing due to improper belay technique	Guest/participants	Likely	Staff to be suitably qualified and supervise group belaying.
		Major	
		High	
		Very Unlikely	

Injury from falling due to climb set up failure	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Major/fatal	Only qualified staff to set up climbs or set up to be check before use by qualified staff.		
		Medium			
Injury from rock fall (other falling objects)	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Instructors to wear helmets and to ensure all participants were helmets in defined boundaries.		
		Major/fatal			
		Medium			
Injury from falling out of harness	Guest/participants	Very Unlikely	Instructors ensure harnesses are properly fitted and check again before setting off on climb or abseil. For smaller participants, a full body or chest harness will be used if instructor judges it to be necessary.		
		Major/fatal			
		Medium			
Cuts / bruises	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	Staff to carry a first aid kit to deal help deal with minor injuries.		
		Minor			
		Medium			
Dehydration	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Very Unlikely	Instructors to make sure participants bring suitable drinks and encourage regular drinking during the session.		
		Major			
		Medium			
Heat Exhaustion/Stroke	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Instructors to ensure plenty of opportunity to stop and drink and taken in food and to be willing to changes plans based on the group's fitness, energy levels and motivation.		
		Major/fatal			
		Medium			
Sun burn	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	Instructors ensure participants have suitable clothing, head cover and sun cream is regularly reapplied.		
		Minor			
		Medium			
Cold-Exposure/hypothermia	Guest/participants	Unlikely	Instructor to ensure participants have appropriate clothing before leaving centre and instructors to have spare clothing, group shelter and spare food.		
		Major			
		Medium			
		Unlikely	Medium	Low	

Injury due to improper use of equipment	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Major			Instructors to train participants how to properly use equipment and monitor them to ensure proper use.
		Medium			
Injury due to faulty equipment	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Very Unlikely	Major/fatal	Low	Equipment regularly checked and properly maintained.
		Major/fatal			
		Medium			
Vehicle crash	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Major/fatal	Low	<p>Drivers must have at least 2 years' experience and signed off by appropriate manager and to drive the mini-bus (with passengers must have the MIDAS training). Planned breaks for longer drives will be put in place.</p> <p>Vehicle checks are done on a regularly bases by H&S officer/maintenance team to ensure good working order of centre vehicles.</p> <p>When using a personal vehicle, it is up to the owner to ensure the vehicle is in good working order.</p>
		Major/fatal			
		High			

