

# Activity Risk assessment

<b>Name of activity, event, and location</b>	<b>Climbing Complex Hertfordshire Scout Activity Centres- Phasels Wood Activity Centre</b>	<b>Date of risk assessment</b>	<b>October 2024</b>	<b>Name of person doing this risk assessment</b>	<b>Katy Pearce EM HCSC Reviewed by: Doug Stack ACM HCSC</b>
		<b>Date of next review</b>	<b>October 2025</b>		

<b>Hazard- what could go wrong?</b>	<b>Who is at risk?</b>	<b>Assessment of risk</b>	<b>Control measures in place</b>	<b>Remaining risk using control measures</b>
Injury caused by falling from height	Participants/ Instructors	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safe systems and procedures are in place, approved by independent technical advisor.</li> <li>Climbers are always roped on.</li> <li>All PPE correctly fitted at start of session and 'Good to go checks' are carried out before climbing.</li> <li>Everyone who is within 3 meters under a live climber must be wearing a correctly fitted helmet at all times.</li> <li>All instructors are trained, and their competence is assessed as detailed in our standard operating procedure.</li> </ul>	Low
Participants becoming stuck	Participants	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructors are trained in how to rescue participants.</li> <li>Instructors run their sessions, utilising 'challenge by choice' and 'comfort zone' offering options for participants to set their own level of challenge.</li> </ul>	Low
Injury from lead bolts	Participants	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants are told in the safety briefing and reminded throughout the session not to use lead bolts as climbing holds.</li> </ul>	Low
Unsupervised use of equipment	Participants, Leaders	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Harnesses and helmets must not be left at the wall unattended.</li> <li>Ropes must be left tied up.</li> </ul>	Low
Failure due to weight	Participants	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should an instructor have a concern of a customer's weight they shall ask them directly. Questioning will be done privately away from earshot of the group.</li> <li>If harnesses cannot fit participants correctly, they cannot participate in the activity.</li> </ul>	Low
Injury caused by entrapment i.e. hair	Participants, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructors are positioned in direct supervision.</li> </ul>	Low

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Good to go checks' are carried out by instructors prior to leaving the ground which include making sure all hair is tied back and loose clothing tucked in.</li> <li>• When descending participants are instructed to use their feet and hands to fend off from the wall minimising the chance of getting their harness/helmet caught.</li> <li>• All descents must be controlled.</li> </ul>	
Weather	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Centre Management Team/Lead Instructors must check weather at start of day and monitor throughout.</li> <li>• Sessions must be stopped if wind speeds exceed 24mph, dependant on location.</li> <li>• Sessions must be stopped immediately in thunder and lightning, and wait for 30 minutes after end of storm, before re commencing.</li> <li>• Sessions to be cancelled in extreme hot or cold temperatures.</li> </ul>	Low
Uncontrolled groups of young people	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep all young people involved sitting down while not participating.</li> <li>• Groups must be accompanied by a supervising adult.</li> <li>• Group leader is responsible for managing the groups behaviour as stated in the booking terms and conditions.</li> </ul>	Low
Self-led sessions/ equipment	Participants, Leaders	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group leader is responsible to ensure that those with own permits/qualifications must have completed and signed a Self-Led Activity Registration Form for the activity. Up-to-date permits/qualifications must be uploaded.</li> <li>• Supervising adult must be shown the activity area/activity equipment by centre staff before commencing the activity or been provided an alternative method.</li> <li>• An additional competent adult should be present supervising individuals that are not engaged on the activity.</li> <li>• Those with own permits/qualifications are responsible for their own risk assessment in addition to this risk assessment.</li> <li>• When using own equipment individuals are responsible for their own risk assessment. In addition individuals must provide evidence of appropriate equipment records and must be set-up and run to HCSC standard operating procedures.</li> </ul>	Low
Clients with additional abilities/pre-existing health issues	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group leader must provide information about significant medical requirements and additional needs during the booking process. Instructors should discuss any needs with group leaders before the session is started.</li> <li>• Lead instructors/management should review information and make any specific adaptations, determined with an individual risk assessment.</li> <li>• Group leader is responsible for having access to essential medication i.e. inhalers.</li> </ul>	Low

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants with a history of injuries should be warned about the physical nature of taking part in this activity and have read the activity information before starting.</li> </ul>	
Novice participants	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ratio of 2 instructors and at least one competent adult per 15 participants.</li> <li>Safety briefing given at the start of the session to identify the specific hazards and safety rules to follow and reinforced throughout.</li> </ul>	Low
Failure of equipment	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly equipment checks are carried out.</li> <li>Routine visual inspections completed and signed for at the start of the day and before each session by the activities team.</li> <li>If the activity equipment has a defect during use, the activity must be stopped immediately until repairs are completed, safety checks carried out and verified so activity can recommence. This must be recorded appropriately.</li> </ul>	Low
Poorly maintained activity area	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual external independent inspections are carried out.</li> <li>Monthly activity area checks are carried out.</li> <li>Routine visual inspections completed and signed for at the start of the day and before each session by the activities team.</li> <li>If the activity area has a defect during use, the activity must be stopped immediately until repairs are completed, safety checks carried out and verified so activity can recommence. This must be recorded appropriately.</li> </ul>	Low
Misuse of equipment	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear briefing is provided at the start of the session.</li> <li>Instructors to follow safe systems they have been taught.</li> </ul>	Low
General Injury	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Groups are responsible for their own first aid. Groups must have someone adequately trained and have a suitable first aid kit.</li> <li>Additional first aid kit and defibrillator are available at reception/activity and key staff on duty to offer further support if required.</li> <li>Those with NGB qualifications must hold a valid first aid qualification (if a requirement).</li> </ul>	Low