

ACTIVITY	7. Rock Climbing & Abseiling	
HAZARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ 1. Significant falls ✗ 2. Falling objects ✗ 3. Incorrect belay technique or use of belay device ✗ 4. Entrapment by equipment- ✗ 5. Climber or abseiler inverting ✗ 6. Student inadvertently or purposely unclipping from harness ✗ 7. Equipment tampered with by third parties ✗ 8 	
CONTROL MEASURES		
✗ Rigging tampered with by users	✓	Constant supervision, particularly if bottom top roping
✗ Cuts from rubbish/glass	✓ ✓	Check areas being used Remove rubbish if possible
✗ Risk of falls	✓ ✓	Sufficient supervision/control of group by staff – knowledge of area by staff Supervision of belaying
✗ Misuse of in-situ anchors	✓	All anchors should be checked for suitability prior to use
✗ Falls whilst bouldering, scrambling	✓ ✓ ✓	Careful consideration/selection of suitable venues Use of trained staff to safeguard climbers Participants to wear helmets
✗ Abrasion of ropes – gritstone crag, resulting in equipment failure	✓ ✓ ✓	Careful inspection of equipment prior to use Attention to detail when rigging/belaying to prevent abrasion Use of padding
✗ Injuries to staff leading/setting up	✓ ✓ ✓	Careful inspection of equipment prior to use Attention to detail when rigging/belaying to prevent abrasion Use of padding
✗ Sprain/twisted ankle	✓	Appropriate footwear to be worn
✗ Hypothermia	✓ ✓	Correct clothing checked before Spare clothing taken
✗ Heat stroke, sun burn	✓ ✓	Suncream applied regularly Hats/appropriate clothing
✗ Other users ie rock falls from paths above	✓ ✓ ✓	Careful route choice Communication Briefing
✗ Trips and falls on descent	✓ ✓ ✓	Supervision Careful route choice Briefing

This must be read in conjunction with Risk Assessment Number 1

- ➔ Appropriate choice of location, crag and route
- ➔ Appropriate briefing to and supervision of students regarding operating areas/ routes/ waiting areas and descents
- ➔ Jewellery and rings must be removed, long hair tied back to avoid entrapment in belay and abseiling devices
- ➔ All participants on outdoor crags, walls, towers and mobile facilities must wear approved helmets as directed by qualified staff or the facility
- ➔ Careful training and supervision of belaying should take place with

novices

- Consider the use of chest harness to prevent inversion
- Consider tying directly into harness to avoid unclipping
- Checking of all equipment and rigging before and during use
- Availability of plan B

NOTES

- If students are to belay, a carefully structured teaching session is required to ensure complete understanding. Thereafter, careful direct supervision is required.
- There should be a structured build up of the activity to ensure the right level for each participant
- Consider the use of other adults to be trained/supervised for belay

Created by:

Date:

Review date: