



Risk assessment form (H&S)

Name of assessor(s)	Karl Watson, Callum McMillan	Group / Establishment:	SSE Outdoors
Date	January 2023		

What is the workplace / activity / equipment / conditions (delete as appropriate) being assessed:	How was the assessment done? e.g. desktop exercise, site visit, in consultation with employees, managers, safety representatives?	Next review date:
		Jan 2024
Climbing and abseiling at Uphill Quarry, a venue modified with fixed anchors from which all rigging will be fixed. RCI holder only to rig and check the system. Access through locked gate into Nature Reserve Grid Ref: (ST 315584)	Desktop Exercise by Senior Instructor & Activities Manager Signed off by Tech Advisor Pete Goldsmith MIC	Mobile reception / nearest landline
		Café, caravan park, boat yard – mobile-varied

Who could be harmed, and how?	What is already being done to control the risks?	*Risk Rating Severity x Likelihood			What further action is recommended to reduce risks further?	Action by whom?	Date action due	Date action done
		S	L	S x L				
All participants – being hit by falling object	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor to define a safe zone Helmets to be worn when outside the safe zone Safety/Activity briefing for all participants Constant monitoring of participants Encouragement/guidance provided throughout activity session School staff / additional staff to discipline Briefing on rock fall and awareness of ex limestone quarry Positioning when belaying and backing up 	2	1	2				

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All participants – rigging rings failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check last inspection (April 2016) dates • Instructor to check for movement 	5	1	5				
All participants – climbing without being attached to safety rope (failing to follow safety rules)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor in control of session • Group encouraged to self-check • Instructor to clearly check each participant before they climb, abseil • Calm control at all times • Safety/Activity briefing for all participants • Constant monitoring of participants • Check system • School staff to assist with group control 	5	1	5				
All participants – falls due to safety equipment failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only centre owned equipment to be used • Manufacturers guidelines for replacement / storage / use to be followed • Equipment to be inspected as per SSE outdoors equipment management procedure • Each instructor to check equipment for signs of wear and damage each session • Damaged / worn equipment to be placed in the de-com bin in the high ropes store and corresponding defect form filled out • Harness, helmet and attachment to rope to be checked by instructor before each climb commences • Check systems to encourage multiple responsibility for safety checks and minimise instructor error • Instructor to check belay system and participants prior to climber leaving the ground • Standard climbing calls to be used 	5	1	5				

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All participants – falls due to operator error	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved systems of belaying to be used in line with NGB/centre training procedures Encouragement and continued checking of participants, both climbers and belayers Staff who are signed off to deliver climbing sessions at Kilve Court can supervise climbing ropes if deemed competent by RCI Staff signed off to Abseil on the Kilve Abseil Tower may run the abseil, however the RCI holder must always be within arm's reach to take over as necessary Check systems to encourage multiple responsibility for safety checks and minimise instructor error Additional adult, teacher to monitor behaviour and remove those posing a danger in line with behaviour policy 	5	1	5				
All participants – slips, trips & falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety/activity brief for all participants Walking expected at all times Group to be kept under close control when moving around activity base Staff to be extra vigilant and make themselves safe at all times whilst travelling around the crag Keep away from edge unless clipped in 	1	2	1				
All participants – clothing/hair entrapment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COP guidance regarding clothing to be followed Staff training to refresh rescue techniques 	2	1	2				
All participants – psychological scaring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenge by choice for all participants Every participant may, presuming it is safe to do so, change their mind about having a go Instructor training regarding soft skills, communication, facilitation 	3	2	6				

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear demonstration from instructor Where possible, start low and increase height as appropriate Celebrate successes, of all levels 							
All participants – fearful user- freezes during climb or abseil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> explained during safety brief instructor trained continuous monitoring of climbers continuous communication and reassurance to climber 	3	2	6				
All participants – misuse/ damage to equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> safety brief / continuous monitoring Equipment checks pre and post session Referral to learning objectives Suitable equipment storage Reporting of faulty equipment Regular equipment inspections Equipment stored in line with manufactures guidelines 	3	2	6				
All participants – poor behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor is trained and updated Safety brief for all Continuous monitoring of the group Early intervention Reinforcement of ground rules Referral to learning objectives Abandonment of session if lead instructor deems it unsafe to continue – poor behaviour or external factors Utilise visiting staff to maintain high standards of group control, remove poorly behaved participants 	3	2	6				

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All participants – poor/extreme weather – high winds/ electrical storms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weather forecast checked prior to start of session Reported in AM briefing Cease activity should lightening be within 2 miles Alternative activity identified at morning briefing should winds be too strong 	2	4	8				
All participants – Unknown person/ general public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If public approach at the top, make them aware of the danger. If they approach at the bottom also explain risk Group to be briefed If travelling to nearest rest room, no less than 3 at a time or adult to accompany 	1	2	2				

* [Click here](#) for guidance in calculating Risk Rating. Rate the **severity** of the potential harm (between 1-5, where 5 is fatal) and the **likelihood** of the harm occurring (again 1-5 where 5 is very likely). Guidance is at [HS 004](#).

Please now pass this assessment to your manager for approval

Name of assessor's manager:	Ack Moore	Date:	21/2/23	Manager's comments	
Signature:					