



# Risk assessment form (H&S)

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

<b>What is the workplace / activity / equipment / conditions (delete as appropriate) being assessed:</b>  The Climbing is in a gravelled area enclosed by fencing and a gate. The wall is purpose built and can accommodate two groups at any one time. Equipment for climbing is stored inside the structure.	<b>How was the assessment done?</b> e.g. desktop exercise, site visit, in consultation with employees, managers, safety representatives?  On-site assessment by Senior Instructor (RCI), Lead Instructor (CWI) & Technical Advisor, Pete Goldsmith (MIC)	<b>Next review date:</b>
		January 2024
		<b>Mobile reception / nearest landline</b>
		Good / main office / ODC

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				
<b>All participants</b> – Hit by falling object	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helmets to be worn throughout the session.</li> <li>Safety at start of session explaining areas.</li> <li>Pockets to be emptied at the start of the session.</li> <li>Clothing and footwear to be secure.</li> </ul>	3	1	3				
<b>All participants</b> – Climbing without being attached to the safety rope.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructor to maintain group control at all times</li> <li>Group encouraged to monitor and check each other before climbing</li> <li>Instructor to check each participant before climbing</li> <li>Instructor to say when to start climbing</li> <li>Check, check system in place and taught to all</li> </ul>	5	1	5				

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<b>All participants</b> – falls due to safety equipment failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only centre approved equipment to be used.</li> <li>Manufacturers guidelines to be followed for storage, use and replacement of kit.</li> <li>Equipment checks to be carried out in line with SSE Outdoors equipment management procedure.</li> <li>Equipment to be checked at the start of every session, by instructor leading the session</li> <li>Damaged, worn equipment to be placed in the de-com bin in core stores and corresponding defect form filled out.</li> <li>Harness, helmet, attachment to rope and all metal work to be checked before each participant leaves the ground.</li> <li>Check, check system in place to encourage multiple responsibility for safety checks by all participants</li> <li>Instructor to check belay system before climber leaves the ground</li> <li>Standard climbing calls to be used where possible and taught to the group</li> </ul>	5	1	5				
<b>All participants</b> – Falls due to operator error	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approved systems of belaying to be used in line with NGB &amp; centres procedures</li> <li>Instructor must be in control of lowering participants; this can include the instructor tailing the rope and allowing participants to operate the belay device, or instructor operates the belay device.</li> <li>If the GRIGRI+ device needs to have the panic function overridden due to participant not being heavy enough, then only the instructor to complete the lower in line with manufacturers guidelines</li> <li>Continuous observation of all participants</li> </ul>	5	1	5				

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<b>All participants</b> – slips, trips, falls on ground or stairs/steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety briefing for all at start of session.</li> <li>Walking expected at all times.</li> <li>Group to be monitored and controlled when moving around activity base.</li> </ul>	1	2	2				
<b>All participants</b> – clothing or hair entrapment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COP to be followed with regard to clothing and footwear.</li> <li>Staff training to refresh rescue techniques at stages throughout each season.</li> <li>Long hair to be tied back and tucked in to top if required.</li> <li>Loose items of clothing to be tucked in.</li> </ul>	2	1	2				
<b>All participants</b> – psychological scarring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenge by choice model for all involved</li> <li>Every participant may change their mind, if safe to do so, at any time during their turn.</li> <li>Instructor training regarding soft skills, different methods of communication and facilitation</li> <li>Clear and age-appropriate demonstrations from the instructor to the group where needed</li> <li>Set small targets, with an increased target if growth in confidence is observed</li> <li>Celebrate all success</li> </ul>	3	2	6				
<b>All participants</b> – misuse or damage to equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuous monitoring of all participants</li> <li>Expectations and instructions on correct use of all equipment</li> <li>Equipment checks at the start and finish of every session</li> <li>Equipment stored correctly and in line with manufacturers guidelines</li> <li>Reporting of faulty equipment</li> <li>Regular equipment inspections in line with equipment management procedure</li> </ul>	3	2	6				

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<b>All participants – poor behaviour</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructor training and competent at leading groups</li> <li>Continuous monitoring of groups throughout session</li> <li>Reinforcement of safety brief throughout the session</li> <li>Early intervention</li> <li>Session ceased if instructor deems it unsafe to continue.</li> <li>School staff to assist with group management</li> </ul>	3	2	6				
<b>All participants – poor weather, high winds, electric storms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weather forecast to be checked at the start of each day and throughout if needed</li> <li>Cease session if in any doubt of bad weather</li> <li>Lightning no closer than 2 miles away, 2 seconds after lightening to thunder</li> <li>Alternative activities to be used if weather conditions are not suitable.</li> </ul>	2	4	8				

\* [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

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