

Risk assessment

Name of activity, event, and location	Indoor Climbing (Roped & bouldering) Rock & River activity Centre Wood Lane, Mawdesley L40 2RL	Date of risk assessment	April 2021	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Ash Green/ Hugh Miller
		Date of next review	October 2021		

What hazard have you identified? What are the risks from it?	Who is at risk?	How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
A hazard is something that may cause harm or damage. The risk is the harm that may occur from the hazard.	For example: young people, adult volunteers, visitors	Controls are ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk. For example, you may use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way you do the activity.	Keep checking throughout the activity in case you need to change what you're doing or even stop the activity. This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.
Injury from falling when climbing	Climber, bystander, other climbers	Safety matting is already in place. Maximum of 4 non-climbers inside the wall (to include activity and sectional leaders). Climbers to be briefed as per operating procedures at the start of session. No harnesses to be worn when bouldering. All bags etc must be in the corridor or in the centre of the climbing wall. Boulderers must stay lower than the green line at all times.	Climbers moving between areas & passing under active climbers.
Lead runner bolts	Climber	Lead bolts identified beforehand. These have been removed from most of the wall, but if a climber is following a route where bolts exist, the activity instructor is to identify these to the climber and warn them away from touching them.	
Injury due to unsafe belaying	Climber, belayer	Leadership permits. If the permit of the Activity Leader allows, leaders may train young people in safely belaying others (this is to be encouraged). Climbers and belayers trained to "check each other" to ensure knots and belay devices are correctly attached. No unsupervised belaying is to be allowed at any time. Individuals are only permitted to belay other people if they can demonstrate their ability (such as belaying a weighted toy etc up and down the wall). 'Smilers' to be used. Climbers can only proceed when activity leader has checked their setup.	
Entanglement due to unused hanging ropes	Climber	Unused ropes to be clipped aside or taken down as appropriate.	
Loose or spinning holds	Climber, bystander	Climbers asked to identify any moving holds, and these to be tightened or removed by the activity instructor when safe to do so.	
Injury when climbing	Climber	Climbers advised to avoid traversing when roped to reduce pendulum risk. All participants wear harness and helmet when climbing. Initial briefing covers jewellery/hoods/loose shoes/long hair etc.	

You can find more information in the Safety checklist for leaders and at scouts.org.uk/safety

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Emotional injury	Climber, bystanders	"Challenge by Choice" – do not pressurise people to climb if they do not want to. Watch for overenthusiastic parents and leaders pushing unwilling Scouters	
Climber becoming cragfast	Climber	Encourage climber to let go and descend. All climbers to be shown how to descend before climbing begins	
Equipment failure	Climber, belayers	Equipment stored appropriately, inspected for damage before and after use, and use is logged.	
Other controls	All attendees	Instructors are first-aid trained, first aid kit to be provided by visiting Scout Group	

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