

# Risk & Operational Assessment Activities / Abseiling

Next Review: Dec 2025

Centre: Whitemoor Lakes	Assessed By: Nicola Whiting (Chief Instructor) Robin Jones (Senior Instructor) Chris Browning (senior instructor) Luke Austin (Senior Instructor) Alex Jones (Senior Instructor)	ASSESSED	ASSESSED	Dec 2023	
		May 2013	May 2017	June 2024	
		Nov 2013	Nov 2018	Dec 2024	
		Nov 2014	Nov 2019		
		Nov 2015	April 2021		
		Nov 2016	<u>May</u> 2022		

Overview /  
 Carried out on a purpose-built tower supplied and erected by JM Adventure. A Rock Climbing Instructor (RCI) qualified Chief Instructor has overall responsibility. All other instructors hold NGB qualifications (RCI or CWI or ERCA instructor) and/or have been in-house trained using NGB recognized techniques. An examination is completed on each in house trained staff member by the Technical Advisor and/or Chief Instructor. This process is periodically checked and validated by an independent Technical Advisor. Staffing Ratio 1:12 under instruction- 2:16 (under exceptional circumstances with consent from the client). All appropriate personal protective equipment is worn during sessions.

STEP ONE	STEP TWO	STEP THREE	STEP FOUR	STEP FIVE
List significant hazards here:	List groups of people who are at risk from the hazards you have identified:	List the Control Measures for the identified risks:	Identify any residual risk remaining after the control measures have been put in place:	Identify any benefits that may result from exposure to the perceived and residual risk for participants:
<b>Falling from height</b>	Instructors Guests Staff	In-depth, activity specific, safety talk given prior to start. Safe Working practice Session guide Personal Protective Equipment Group leader responsibilities RCI/CWI/ERCA training and/or in House Training Emergency procedures First aider always present First aid & near miss forms No crop-tops, short shorts and no open-toed sandals to be worn.	Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	Exposure to Heights has proven personal developmental benefits, as well as been part of a group belaying.

<b>Structural failure</b>	Instructors Guests Staff	Regular inspections carried out by an external qualified inspector and remedial work to installation and equipment carried out whenever required.	Some elements have ladders and/or staples.	Equipment could be completely fenced off and locked or access to outside areas could be refused however this would have a negative aesthetic impact on the environment and prevent use of outside areas for recreation.
<b>Falling objects</b>	Instructors Guests Staff	In-depth, activity specific, safety talk given prior to start.	Some may not take items out of their pockets. Shoes may become loose when climbing.	
<b>Equipment Failure</b>	Instructors Guests Staff	All staff trained to use suitable belay device, and set ups according to NGB standards. Equipment safety checks Equipment decommissioning policy	Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	
<b>Tangled in ropes.</b>	Guests	Safe Working practice Session guide Personal Protective Equipment Group leader responsibilities RCI/CWI/ERCA training and/or in House Training Emergency procedures First aider always present First aid & near miss forms	Safety rules might not be adhered to. Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	
<b>Misuse of equipment</b>	Instructors Staff Guests	All staff trained to use suitable belay device according to NGB standards. Ladders locked up when not in use Fences surround the course	Misuse of equipment deliberately by participants. Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	

<b>Rope burns</b>	Instructors Guests Staff	In-depth, activity specific, safety talk given prior to start.	Small risk of rope burn. Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	Handling ropes teaches responsibility and encourages involvement
<b>Unauthorized climbing on equipment</b>	Guests Staff Public	In-depth, activity specific, safety talk given prior to start. Ladders locked up when not in use. Fences surround the course. Staff use authorisation procedure. Safety signs	Safety rules might not be adhered to. Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	
<b>Weather (High Winds, lightning, extreme temperatures)</b>	Instructors Guests Staff	Activity cancelled or curtailed during lightning or extreme winds.	Negative effects of weather on individuals can never be fully removed.	Exposure to cold and inclement weather has proven positive developmental effects and teaches people about their limitations.
<b>Hair or clothing caught in lowering device</b>	Participants	Rescue procedures taught and practiced by staff. Participants briefed to keep hair tied back and keep fingers out the way	Some may not listen to safety rules	