

Leap of Faith

Activity Area: Low ropes compound
Minimum Staffing Level: 1 Instructor per group
Staff/Pupil Ratio: 1:12 (1:1 when climbing)
Staff Qualifications: In-house Training MIA assessed
Maximum Number of Participants: 15
Role of Accompanying Adult: Supervision of group at activity base

Hazard	Outcome/Injury	Persons at risk	Rating	Existing Controls
Fall from height	Death Serious injury	Participants Instructors	4 - 1	Staff and participants clipped to safety line at start of climb. Correctly fitted helmets and harnesses worn by participant when on equipment. Participant descent controlled by trained instructor via safety rope. Ladder secured to tree when in use
Splinters	Minor injury	Participants Instructors	4 - 3	Ladder, holds and wooden platform checked for deformities weekly.
Equipment failure	Death Serious injury	Participants Instructors	3 - 1	All equipment checked by instructors prior to use. Daily and weekly equipment checks carried out.
Objects falling from tree canopy	Head or Bodily injury	Participants Instructors Observers	3 - 2	Correctly fitted helmets must be worn within designated area. Base of activity and immediate area out of bounds to casual spectators.
Contact with tree on ascent or descent	Head injury, Back injury, Sprains, Cuts, Grazes, Bruises	Participants	3 - 2	Correctly fitted helmets worn while climbing. Correct technique described by trained instructors. Suitable clothing should be worn (including footwear) Long hair and loose clothing or items of jewellery safely tucked away.
Belay equipment	Cuts, Crush injury, Bruising	Instructors	3 - 3	Instructors trained in correct use of belay equipment. Belay equipment checked for defects prior to use.
Trip hazards (ground anchors)	Sprains, Cuts, Bruises	Participants Instructors	3 - 3	Ground anchors clearly marked. Only the instructor goes near the ground anchor during a session
Ascending/descending	Death Serious injury	Participants Instructors	3 - 1	Correctly fitted helmets worn by all staff and participants. Instruction provided on safe ascent/descent of ladder/step sections.
Structural failure	Death Serious injury	Participants Instructors Observers	4 - 1	Cable structures subject to inspection by an independent engineer.
Adverse weather conditions (outdoor walls)	Electrocution, Exposure	Participants Instructors Observers	3 - 1	Weather reports monitored. Activity stopped during electrical storms, high winds and heavy rain.
Unauthorised Access	Death Serious injury	All	3 - 1	Group Leader briefing, signage & controlled access. Area locked and secure when not in use.

Key

Rating: Likelihood (1 = Very High, 2 = High, 3 = Medium, 4 = Low) - Consequence (1 = Fatal 2 = Major Injury 3 = Minor Injury 4 = No Injury)