

Rope Climb

Activity Area: Outdoor Tower
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 tower base

Hazard	Outcome/Injury	Persons at risk	Rating	Existing Controls
Fall from height	Death Serious Injury	Instructors Participants,	4 - 1	Staff and participants clipped to safety line at start of climb. Correctly fitted helmets and harnesses worn by all participants and staff. Participant descent controlled by trained instructor via safety rope. Tower secured against unsupervised access.
Equipment failure	Death Serious Injury	Instructors Participants	3 - 1	All equipment checked by instructors prior to use. Daily and weekly equipment checks carried out.
Objects falling from structure	Head or Bodily injury	Instructors Participants Observers	3 - 2	Correctly fitted helmets must be worn within designated area. Base of tower and immediate area out of bounds to casual spectators
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	Instructors Participants	3 - 3	Ground anchors clearly marked.
Ascending/descending access ladders/steps	Death Serious Injury	Instructors	3 - 1	Correctly fitted helmets worn by all staff. Instruction provided on safe ascent and descent of ladder/step sections.
Structural failure	Death Serious Injury	Instructors Participants Observers	4 - 1	Climbing structures subject to inspection by an independent engineer.
Adverse weather conditions (outdoor walls)	Electrocution, Exposure	Instructors Participants 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
Hyperthermia / Hypothermia	Serious injury	Instructors Participants	3 - 2	Appropriate clothing, time out of sun, fluid breaks.
Rope Burn	Cuts	Participants	2 - 3	Instructor to advise participants to wear long trousers and tops. Participants are not to take part in unsuitable clothing due to the high risk of rope burn.

Key

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