

Activity – Bradfield Park Scout Campsite - ABSEILING

Location

This activity takes place on dedicated climbing tower at Bradfield Park Scout Campsite

Access

Access to the top of the tower is only available by climbing the tower with a safety rope in place.

Equipment

A climbing harness is provided and fitted by the instructor. Helmets are provided and fitting is demonstrated. Other equipment may be used by the instructor as required.

Health & Hygiene

The activity takes place outside and is subject to the prevailing weather conditions. No special personal equipment is required other than normal clothing for the conditions. Footwear should be sensible for the activity and the conditions. The activity may take place in most weather conditions and the decision to start or stop a session is made with consideration given to the age, preparedness for the activity and experience of the group. The activity will not take place if there is the likelihood of lightning.

Hazard	Hazard Effect	Risk Control Measures	Risk Level	Action
Falling from the abseil tower	Slight to severe injury. Death	1. The abseiler will be made safe at the platform on top of the tower by means of a safety sling and carabiner or using a safety rope controlled by an instructor	L/M	
Falling objects	Slight to severe injury. Death	1. Abseil platforms kept clear of unattached objects. 2. Base of tower is a hard hat area.	L	
Poor instruction and leadership	Inappropriate activity, slight to severe injury, uncontrolled outcomes.	1. Minimum qualification requirements for instructors for scout activities is Scout Climbing Leadership Permit issued in accordance with POR. 2. Minimum qualification requirement for instructors for Girl Guides is Level 1 Girl Guiding UK award or the Climbing Wall Award (CWA) Other local awards may be accepted only after on site appraisal by site staff and in consultation with a County Climbing Assessor. 3. Continuous appraisal and feedback from user groups.	L	
Equipment failure	Falling	1. Equipment checked in accordance with maintenance schedule as well as visually and by handling on each use. 2. Each use of harness and rope is recorded. 3. Worn equipment is destroyed and replaced. 4. Harness is fitted or checked by an instructor.	L	
Hair, clothes, fingers or other items catching in equipment	Descent stopped due to jammed equipment. Hair pulled, fingers trapped or broken.	Participants instructed to keep hands away from abseil device. Hair kept back by helmet, hair band or tucking into clothing. In the event of jammed equipment the abseil rope is released which will immediately free the jam, the abseiler is lowered on the safety rope.	L	

Activity Session Content

The whole group must be present at the start of the session as all information on the activity is provided at this time. All participants are fitted with a harness. Fitting helmets is demonstrated. The procedures for access to the tower and for the conduct of the activity are given verbally to the whole group before the activity starts. Harnesses are provided for each participant and must not be swapped between persons.

As the abseil is operated from the top of a tower a second instructor is required to provide safe access to the top of the tower for the instructor and to assist with participants at ground level.

Some of these tasks may be delegated to a suitable person by the Instructor.

Groups are required to provide a leader or adult to watch and manage those group members who are not actively involved in the climbing at any given time. Wherever possible, groups are asked to provide a leader with a current first aid qualification

Persons who are unable to follow simple instruction or control their actions will be removed from the activity.

09/05/2017

Bradfield Park

Note

In the event of a problem that results in a jammed abseil device or a frozen abseiler the abseil rope will be released and the abseiler will be lowered to the ground by the instructor using the safety rope.