Bradley Wood Activity Centre
High Ropes 2026 - Risk Assessment 019

Document History			
Written / Revised By	**Date**	**Notes**	**Review Date**
Jo Davies-Robertson	April 2023	/	-
Amy Parry	March 2024	Reviewed, revised to incorporate new layout including changes to SOPs	March 2025
Alice Chapman/ Dave Gill	March 2025	Reviewed and revised to incorporate changes to SOPs	March 2026
Alice Chapman	March 2026	Reviewed and revised to incorporate new layout, including any changes to SOPs.	March 2027

Hazard & Associated Risk	**Persons at Risk**			**Control Measures**	**Additional Precautions**	**Probability**	**Impact**	**Score**	**Risk**
	Young	Staff	Visitors						
Non-Compliance with Scout POR - Causing any personal injury to user, other users and spectators	P	P	P	- All rules are in accordance with Scout POR as activity is classed as a High Ropes Activity - Regular consultation with County Activity Lead on any changes from POR - Instructors must hold a site-specific qualification in running High Ropes. - Instructors must have yearly in-house competency sign-off by the Lead Technical Advisor (LTA), who holds an MCI qualification		1	3	3	Minor
Falling Objects – Causing head injury, other injuries or damage to personal items	P	P	P	- Procedures in place to check equipment before use and action taken if any issues are discovered - Correct footwear must be worn, secure to foot and closed toe - Participants to remove loose objects from their pockets and securely tie their shoelaces - Safety helmets to be worn at all times within the activity area - Spectators to remain at least 2m away from the activity	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area -Instructor holds current Scout First Aid qualification (or higher)	3	1	3	Minor
Falls from Apparatus - Causing personal injury	P	P		- Properly fitted full body harness is securely connected with a 3-way carabiner to climbing rope with a double fig-8 with a stopper knot, checked by instructor - Instructor personal belaying or closely monitoring tunnelling / bell ringing setup - The instructor is in charge of the descending climber	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area -Instructor holds current Scout First Aid	1	3	3	Minor

				- All participants must be belayed with a GriGri.	qualification (or higher)				
Failure of Equipment - Leading to personal injury to user or staff - Causing abrasions, bruises, cuts, and bumped heads	P	P		- Procedures in place to check equipment before use and action taken if any issues are discovered - Annual safety inspection carried out by external company - Appropriate equipment (harnesses) for group selected by instructor - The activity area will be checked monthly for any damage and the fences integrity. Inspections will be logged - Clear safety briefing delivered by Qualified Instructor to include correct use of equipment - Helmets worn by all participants - Mid-section of body and shoulders should be covered by clothing - All equipment should be UIAA approved and carry the relevant CE marking. -All equipment must be within the manufacturer's lifetime	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area -Instructor holds current Scout First Aid qualification (or higher)	2	2	4	Moderate
Uneven Ground / Disorderly Behaviour – Resulting in trips and slips	P	P	P	- Procedures in place to check activity area before use and action taken if any issues are discovered -Clear safety briefing delivered by Qualified Instructor to include no running in the activity area - Close supervision by the Instructors and Group Leader - Correct footwear to be worn – secure to foot and closed toe - Spectators should remain seated/away from activity elements - Persons failing to follow rules will be asked to leave the activity area -The activity area will be checked monthly for any damage and the fences integrity. Inspections will be logged.	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area -Instructor holds current Scout First Aid qualification (or higher)	3	2	6	Moderate
Adverse Weather: storms, high wind and heavy rain etc –	P	P	P	- Procedures in place to check equipment and activity area before use and action taken if any issues are discovered - Activity session may have to cancelled due any adverse weather, where operation can become dangerous. This it at the discretion of the duty manager - Wear appropriately warm weatherproof clothing	-Instructor is empowered to stop the session themselves if they	1	4	4	Moderate

resulting in injury or damage				- Weather conditions assessed before start of activity	deem the weather to have an unsafe impact - Follow 'severe weather' procedure in the site's *Emergency and Disaster Recovery Plan* if required				
Hazards Arising from the Actions of Group Members - i.e. overcrowding and disorderly behaviour.	P	P		- Clear safety briefing delivered by Qualified Instructor will set expectations for High Ropes, how to use equipment and will make sure rules are followed - Activity to be supervised at all times by Qualified Instructors, who will make sure rules are followed - Group Leader/Teacher will provide supervision and correct ratios - Persons failing to follow rules will be asked to leave High Ropes	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area -Instructor holds current Scout First Aid qualification (or higher)	2	2	4	Moderate
Collisions - Causing injury to participants	P	P		- Areas of risk pointed out prior to commencement - Instructors to oversee activity, and is in charge of the descending climber - Helmets worn by all people in the activity area	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area -Instructor holds current Scout First Aid qualification (or higher)	1	2	2	Minor
Participant Becoming 'Stuck' - Lack of confidence / freezing on equipment	p	p		- Clear safety briefing delivered by Qualified Instructor, so participants are aware what is to be expected of them - Supervision and support from Qualified Instructors - Rescue procedures in place		1	2	2	Minor
Loose Clothing and Jewellery - Becoming	P	P		Safety Briefing includes: - Zip up jackets - Told to remove neckers, took in hoody tassels - Dangly jewellery and rings should be removed	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area	1	4	4	Moderate

entangled or a strangulation risk				- Rescue procedures in place	-Instructor holds current Scout First Aid qualification (or higher)				
Lack of Concentration from Belayer / Belayer Error - Resulting in falls	P	P		- Clear briefing from Qualified Instructor to include correct tunnelling / bell ringing techniques, and ensure that this is followed - Supervision from Instructing staff - Belayers (non-instructors) always "backed up" – Tunnelling / Bell Ringing should be used - Staff to take breaks or swap sessions if required		2	3	6	Moderate
Unauthorized Use - causing theft, vandalism or foreign objects in activity area	P	P	P	- Equipment removed after session, stored in locked building - Gates to High Ropes are locked when not in use - Boundary fence around activity area - The Qualified Instructor is responsible for counting all items in and out to ensure none are left behind. - Procedures in place to check equipment and activity area before use and action taken if any issues are discovered - The activity area will be checked monthly for any damage and the fences integrity. Inspections will be logged - Lower elements removed to ground level - Tracers for ropes tied out of reach - Activity equipment can only be left setup between gaps in sessions if the High Ropes gate is securely locked or if a staff member remains in the area - Normal site security procedures in place		1	3	3	Minor