

Abseiling/Climbing Risk Assessment

Hazard	Who might be harmed	Severity	Control measures in place at present	Likelihood with current controls in place	Risk Factor	Further action required and time span	Likelihood after further action	Risk factor
Falling off abseil / climbing pitch	Instructors, clients,	H	Cows tails to be used at all times when operating near top of pitches	4	H4			
Falling rocks	Instructors, clients	H	All participants and instructors must wear helmets at all times during abseiling sessions. This reduces the risk of head injury from falling objects. Staff must ensure helmets do not constantly require adjusting.	4	H4			
Failure of equipment	Instructors, client	H	Equipment to be replaced in accordance with manufacturers recommendations In the case of onsite ropes minimum of every season and off site ropes every 2 years. Helmets. Karabiners every 5 years. Fig 8, stitch plates, belay devices etc to be replaced as advised by manufacturers recs. Gear can fail due to overload – people over 18 stones will need to be carefully managed.	4	H4			
Use of unserviceable equipment	Instructors, clients	H	All unserviceable equipment, which is not repairable, must be destroyed	4	.H4			
Becoming entangled in ropes during Abseil (hair,	Students	L	All long hair must be tied back and tucked inside jackets, as per operational procedures, all abseil pitches should have releasable abseil	3	L3			

gloves, chin straps clothing)			rope type set up or other proven method of getting client out of ropes					
Burns from ropes	All participants	L	All participants must wear a glove on hand controlling rope during abseil, these to be destroyed and disposed of when unserviceable.	3	L3			
Tripping over ropes On floor/damage to Ropes by standing on them	All participants	L	Instructor are taught to store spare rope away from areas where clients are walking The importance of care of ropes is brought to the attention of the group as is the safety implications of standing on ropes.	4	L4			
Slipping on path returning from abseil at Maughold, or when descending at Laxey	All Participants	H	Static safety line to be used depending on participants climbing ability.	4	H4			

During the assessment the **severity** of the hazard was given a rating as follows

H= Could cause Death or major significant injury

M= Could cause and injury likely to last 3 days or more

L= Minor injury

The **likelihood** was also given a rating based on the following

1 = Very likely 2 = Frequent event 3= Unlikely 4 =

Extremely unlikely