

Mountaineering Scotland



Risk Assessment Form

Activity : Outdoor Bottom-Rope Climbing Venues : Various

Assessed by: Robert MacKenzie Date: 07/03/2025 Review Due: 07/03/2026

	Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely Harmful
Highly Unlikely	Trivial Risk	Tolerable Risk	Moderate Risk
Unlikely	Tolerable Risk	Moderate Risk	Substantial Risk
Likely	Moderate Risk	Substantial Risk	Intolerable Risk

Hazard Description	Potential Injury/Da mage	Person s at Risk	Control Measures	Risk Rating	Further action Required
Being involved in a road traffic accident	Collision with vehicle	Young people	Arrange for drop-off and collection points away from busy traffic where possible.	Moderate Risk	Warn young people of dangers. Responsible adults to supervise. If the parking spot beside the crag is next to a main road. Instructors will brief participants about sensible behaviour here to mitigate risk.
Attack or molestation	Physical/e motional abuse	Young people	MScot Child Protection Policy and Guidelines to be followed. Ensure at least 2 responsible adults with young people when possible.	Tolerable Risk	
Weather: rain, cold, sun, wind, fog	Exposure, sunburn, hypothermi a, heat stroke	Young people and adults	Participants advised to bring appropriate clothing in pre-event communication. If raining/windy arrange to meet where there is adequate shelter. Get participants to bring sun screen and waterproofs.	Tolerable Risk	
Participants wandering off and going missing	Various	Young people	Code of Conduct & MScot Emergency Procedures to be followed during the session. Participants briefed on boundaries during session and to inform instructors or adults if they need to	Tolerable Risk	





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			leave these boundaries (eg to go to the toilet)		
Equipment Failure	Trauma from fall	Young people and adults	All equipment checked prior to use. Personal protective equipment checked for correct fitting & monitored throughout activity by the MScot staff.	Moderate Risk	Remind participants to check their own equipment throughout the session. Instructors to monitor equipment throughout use for damage.
Fall from height	Trauma from fall	Young people and adults	Group to be briefed on risks of being at the top of the crag (if being there is necessary for session, eg group abseils). Instuctors to ensure they have assessed and mitigated risk of falls when working at the top of crags during rigging	Moderate Risk	Groups at top of crag will be supervised by either an instructor or responsible adult.
Falling Objects	Head injury, trauma	Young people and adults	Helmets worn below and close to activity site. Suitable venue choice, away from loose areas. Group briefed to make sure they know to keep helmets on whilst climbing and hanging around at the bottom of the rock faces. Participants briefed to have empty pockets.	Moderate Risk	Participants warned that trad gear may be dropped and to shout 'Below' if this happens. Climbers briefed that loose rocks may be encountered when climbing.
Belayer Error	Trauma from fall	Young people and adults	Qualified instructor briefing & supervision. Abseiling to be managed by qualified individuals only.	Moderate Risk	Belaying will be monitored throughout the day and participants will be backed up if felt they are not ready to be belay independently.
Tick-borne illness	Illness	Young people and adults	Briefing email contains warning to be wary of ticks at crag. Participant briefing includes mention of tick bites and appropriate removal.	Moderate Risk	Instructors to discourage participants from going into heavily vegetated areas, where there is a higher risk of picking up ticks.
Risk/Benefit Analysis		•			



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