

Activity Area:	Wobble Pole
Minimum Staffing Level	1 Instructor per group
Staff/Pupil Ratio	1:15 (1:1 when climbing)
Staff Qualifications	In-house Training MIA assessed
Maximum Number of Participants	15
Role of Accompanying Adult:	Supervision of group

Risk Matrix	Likelihood			
	Very Likely	Likely	Unlikely	Highly Unlikely
Consequences	High	High	High	Medium
Fatality	-16-	-15-	-14-	-13-
Major Injuries	High	High	Medium	Medium
	-12-	-11-	-10-	-9-
Minor Injuries	High	Medium	Medium	Low
	-8-	-7-	-6-	-5-
Negligible Injuries	Medium	Medium	Low	Low
	-4-	-3-	-2-	-1-

Hazard	Persons at risk	Prior Risk	Existing Controls	New Risk Factor
Fall from height	Instructors Participants,	High 16	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.	Medium 13
Equipment failure	Instructors Participants	High 16	All equipment checked by instructors prior to use. Daily and weekly equipment checks carried out.	Medium 13
Objects falling from structure	Instructors Participants	High 16	Correctly fitted helmets must be worn within designated area. Base of tower and immediate area out of bounds to casual spectators.	Medium 13
Contact with pole during ascent or descent	Participants	High 8	Correctly fitted helmets and harness worn while climbing. Correct technique described by trained instructors to push away from the pole on the way down. Suitable clothing should be worn (including footwear) Long hair and loose clothing or items of jewellery safely tucked away.	Medium 6
Trapping of fingers in belay equipment	Instructors	High 8	Instructors trained in correct use of belay equipment. Belay equipment checked for defects prior to use.	Medium 10
Trip hazards (ground anchors)	Instructors Participants	High 8	Ground anchors clearly marked.	Medium 6
Harnesses and helmet incorrectly fitted	Participants, Instructors Observers	High 16	Instructor to brief all participants on the correct fitting of harnesses and helmets prior to commencing the activity. Instructor to check each individual's harness and helmet immediately before they ascend the Pole	Medium 13
Structural failure	Instructors Participants Observers	High 16	Hand holds checked weekly. Climbing structures subject to inspection by an independent engineer.	Medium 13
Weather	All	Medium 4	Instructor to monitor weather & suspend or cancel session when conditions cause safety to be affected. Instructor to check that all participants have suitable clothing prior to commencing the activity. Instructors must always wear appropriate clothing to run the activity safely. Appropriate clothing, time out of sun, fluid breaks.	Low 1
Unauthorised Access	All	High 16	Group Leader briefing, signage & controlled access. Area locked and secure when not in use.	Medium 13
Hair, jewellery, or clothing trapped in equipment	Participants, Instructors,	High 12	Before climbing participants are asked to remove jewellery (especially rings), tuck away hair, loose clothing and draw cords etc.	Medium 10

Wobble Pole

06/03/2023 Date of next review 06/03/2024 RA Creator CW IOSH

Inversion/fall	Participants, Instructors,	High 16	Instructors will provide clear instruction to avoid inversion or falls Activity. Instructors to ensure correct use and fitting of equipment. Instructors to use an improvised chest harness where needed (i.e., oversized, or undersized participants).	Medium 13
Seating area.	Instructors Participants Observers	High 8	Seating area checked before and after use for any damage. Care must be taken to spot any wasp nests in the summer period.	Medium 6

Walesby Forest

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