

Activity Area:	Low Ropes Course
Minimum Staffing Level	1 per group
Staff/Pupil Ratio	1:20
Staff Qualifications	In-house Training
Maximum Number of Participants	20
Role of Accompanying Adult:	Supervisor

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

Hazard	Persons at risk	Prior Risk	Controls Measures	New Risk Factor
Cold and/or Wet conditions	All	High 8	Instructor to check that all participants have suitable clothing prior to commencing the activity. Instructor must always wear appropriate clothing in order to run the activity safely. Instructor to brief participants on taking care on equipment prior to commencing on the equipment. Instructor to make an informed decision if more than one participant slips as to whether anyone else should continue.	Low 5
Snow and Ice	All	High 8	Instructor to inspect platforms, ascent/decent surfaces for snow/ice build-up prior to the activity commencing and remove as necessary.	Low 5
Weather	All	High 8	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 5
Lightning and/or storms High winds	All	High 16	Instructor is not to run the session in any serious storm. If caught out during a lightning storm, the instructor must cease the activity immediately and seek appropriate shelter. Instructor to monitor weather & suspend or cancel session when wind conditions cause safety to be affected. Tree survey and wind policies in place (see SOP N: Drive).	Medium 13
General ground areas	Participants Instructors	High 12	Instructor to visually check areas for uses before each session. Instructor to brief participants at the start of the session about the correct way to use equipment. Instructor to brief participants on safety systems.	Medium 10
Structural failure	Participants Instructors	High 12	Instructor checks equipment before and after every session. Activity instructor to conduct weekly visual check of the structures.	Medium 10
Extremities entrapment	Participants Instructors	High 12	Instructor to brief participants on the specific risks of each section of the course prior to allowing participant on the course. Instructor to be vigilant during the session and stand in the position of maximum usefulness.	Medium 10

Fall from apparatus.	Participants Instructors	High 12	Instructor to brief participants on the entire course and how to tackle it prior to allowing participant onto the course.	Medium 10
Collisions with other participants/obstacles	Participants Instructors	High 8	Instructor to ensure immediate activity area is free from other users prior to commencing the activity. Instructor to brief participants prior to the session commencing to follow the instructor's directions and be aware of colliding with others.	Medium 6
Lifting	Participants Instructors	High 8	Instructor to brief the participants on how to carry objects before taking part. More than one participant to carry any heavy objects. Participant to be briefed on what is deemed a 'heavy object' prior to allowing participants on the course.	Low 5
Rope burns	Participants Instructors	High 8	Instructor to brief participants in how to use ropes correctly prior to use.	Medium 6
Hair, clothing, or jewellery trapped in equipment	Participants Instructors	Medium 4	Instructor is to brief all participants to tuck away loose clothing and long hair prior to participation. Instructor is to brief participants to remove prominent jewellery prior to participation.	Low 2
Exposed skin on rough surfaces	Participants Instructors	Medium 4	Booking information to inform of clothing requirement (long sleeves and trousers) and sturdy footwear (no sandals) on the day of the session. Instructor to ensure all participants wear suitable clothing (long sleeves and trousers and sturdy footwear (no sandals) prior to session commencing.	Low 2
Splinters	Participants Instructors	Medium 4	Instructor to perform visual check of wooden equipment prior to commencing the activity. Activity Coordinator to conduct weekly inspection of wooden equipment and repair or replace splintered components as necessary.	Low 2
Faulty equipment	Participants Instructors	High 8	Equipment is checked on a regular basis and recorded and replaced where necessary. Instructor is to visually check the equipment for obvious faults at the start of every session.	Medium 6
Unauthorised access	All	High 8	Instructor to brief participants on arrival reference not going onto any activity without a member of staff. Clear signs to be posted at all structures stating no access without suitable qualified staff. No equipment/ropes etc. are to be left prepared and unattended. Area locked and secure when not in use.	Medium 6

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Activity Section	Persons at risk	Prior Risk	Controls Measures	New Risk Factor
Rope Swing	Participants Instructors	High 8	Instructor to brief participants on use of equipment. Take-off and landing points to be checked. Instructor is to visually check the equipment for obvious faults at the start of every session. Area checked for any obstructions i.e., tree branches etc. Operating area to be checked for rabbits' holes and reported if any new activity in that area	Medium 6
Slack Line rope	Participants Instructors	High 8	Instructor to brief participants on use of equipment. No more than two people on a slack line at any time. Take-off and landing points to be checked. Instructor is to visually check the equipment for obvious faults at the start of every session. Area checked for any obstructions i.e., tree branches etc. Operating area to be checked for rabbits' holes and reported if any new activity in that area	Medium 6
Cargo Net (Trapping)	Participants Instructors	High 8	Instructor to brief participants on use of equipment. No more than 4 participants on the net at any one time. Instructor is to visually check the equipment for obvious faults at the start of every session. Instructor to check condition of the safety cargo net before each session. Steel internal cables to be checked for correct tension and any signs of wire splinters. Operating area to be checked for rabbits' holes and reported if any new activity in that area.	Medium 6
Rope pulley seat	Participants Instructors	High 8	Instructor to brief participants on use of equipment. No more than 1 participants on the net at any one time. Instructor is to visually check the equipment for obvious faults at the start of every session. Steel cables to be checked for correct tension and any signs of wire splinters. Operating area to be checked for rabbits' holes and reported if any new activity in that area.	Medium 6
Log Stepping heads	Participants Instructors	High 12	Instructor to brief participants on use of equipment. Instructor to check condition of logs and ropes. Take-off and landing points to be checked. Operating area to be checked for rabbits' holes and reported if any new activity in that area. Instructor to ensure anti slip product is of sounding working order, if in doubt instructor must call for the duty manager to inspect before session is to begin.	Medium 9
Slack Line X-Factor	Participants Instructors	High 8	Instructor to brief participants on use of equipment. No more than two people on a slack line at any time. Take-off and landing points to be checked. Instructor is to visually check the equipment for obvious faults at the start of every session. Area checked for any obstructions i.e., tree branches etc.	Medium 6

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			X-Factor cross to be inspected for any cuts or abrasions, any damage to be reported to the duty manger. Operating area to be checked for rabbits' holes and reported if any new activity in that area	
Log Steps	Participants Instructors	High 8	Instructor to brief participants on use of equipment. Instructor to check condition of logs and ropes. Take-off and landing points to be checked. Operating area to be checked for rabbits' holes and reported if any new activity in that area	Medium 6

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