

Activity Area:	Jacobs Ladder
Minimum Staffing Level	1 Instructor per group
Staff/Pupil Ratio	1:15 1:1 when belaying
Staff Qualifications	In-house Training MIA assessed
Maximum Number of Participants	20
Role of Accompanying Adult:	Supervision of group

Risk Matrix	Likelihood			
	Very Likely	Likely	Unlikely	Highly Unlikely
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	Control Measures	New Risk Factor
Fall from height	Participants Instructors	High 16	Participants clipped to safety line. Correctly fitted helmets and harnesses worn by all participants. Participant descent controlled by trained instructor via safety rope.	Medium 13
Equipment failure	Participants Instructors	High 16	All equipment checked by instructors prior to use. Daily and weekly equipment checks carried out.	Medium 13
Harnesses incorrectly fitted	Participants Instructors	High 16	Instructor training and observations using equipment. Instructor to check everyone's harness immediately before they climb Regular assessment off staff in line with Apprentices framework.	Medium 13
Trapping of fingers in belay equipment	Participants Instructors	High 8	Instructors trained in correct use of belay equipment. Belay equipment checked for defects prior to each use.	Medium 10
Trip hazards (ground anchors)	Participants Instructors Observers	High 8	Ground anchors clearly marked. Area to be checked by instructor before customers arrive, any hazards to be removed or duty manager called if a bigger risk is present.	Medium 6
Ascending/descending	Participants Instructors	High 8	Instruction provided on safe ascent and descent of ladder. Correctly fitted helmets worn by staff and climber. Participants instructed to push poles away from them when descending. Instructors trained in correct use of belay equipment.	Low 5
Cable failure	Participants Instructors	High 16	Cable work to be checked yearly by competent person staff member. Weekly visual checks carried out on ground anchors and equipment checked before and after every use.	Medium 13
Adverse weather conditions	Participants Instructors Observers	High 12	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.	Medium 10
Unauthorised Access	All	High 8	Group Leader briefing, signage & controlled access. Area locked and secure when not in use.	Medium 6
High winds	Instructors Participants	High 16	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

Entanglement	Participants	High 16	Ensure all Long hair is tied up/back as appropriate. Non-loose clothing to be worn. Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. (Not to put any body parts though elements.)	Medium 13
Cuts from wire splinters in the wire rope	Participants Instructors	High 16	Participants briefed not to touch the wire ropes. Wire ropes inspected thoroughly regularly, and damage reported	Medium 13

Walesby Forest

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