

Activity Area:	Leap of Faith
Minimum Staffing Level	1 Instructor per group
Staff/Pupil Ratio	1:2 when belaying
Staff Qualifications	In-house Training MIA assessed
Maximum Number of Participants	15
Role of Accompanying Adult:	Supervision of group

Risk Matrix Consequences	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	Staff and participants clipped to safety line at start of climb. Correctly fitted helmets and harnesses worn by participant when on equipment. Participant descent controlled by trained instructor via safety rope. Ladder secured to tree when in use	Medium 13
Splinters	Participants Instructors	Medium 4	Ladder, holds and wooden platform checked for deformities weekly.	Low 2
Equipment failure	Participants Instructors	High 16	All equipment checked by instructors prior to use. Daily and weekly equipment checks carried out.	Medium 13
Objects falling from tree canopy	Participants Instructors Observers	High 16	Correctly fitted helmets must be worn within designated area. Base of activity and immediate area out of bounds to casual spectators.	Medium 13
Contact with tree on ascent or descent	Participants	High 12	Correctly fitted helmets worn while climbing. Correct technique described by trained instructors. Suitable clothing should be worn (including footwear) Long hair and loose clothing or items of jewellery safely tucked away.	Medium 10
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.	Low 5
Trip hazards (ground anchors)	Participants Instructors	High 8	Ground anchors clearly marked. Only the instructor goes near the ground anchor during a session.	Medium 6
Ascending/descending	Participants Instructors	High 8	Correctly fitted helmets worn by all staff and participants. Instruction provided on safe ascent/descent of ladder/step sections.	Low 5
Cable failure	Participants Instructors Observers	High 16	Cable structures subject to inspection by a competent person.	Medium 13
Adverse weather conditions	Participants Instructors Observers	High 12	Weather reports monitored. Activity stopped during electrical storms, high winds and heavy rain.	Medium 10
Unauthorised Access	Participants Instructors Observers	High 8	Group Leader briefing, signage & controlled access. Area locked and secure when not in use.	Medium 6

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06/03/2026 Date of next review 06/03/2027 RA Creator CW

Inverting	Participants	High 16	Participants provided with full body harness. Instructors in house trained with external MIA assessment.	Medium 13
Injury caused by swinging participant into the platform, tree or other people	Participants Instructors Observers	High 12	The instructor is to act as a spotter for the participant and control their descent as they reach the ground. Participants and instructors are briefed on marked safety areas to be kept clear. Instructor is to supervise the area whilst the activity is taking place and clear the area prior to the activity starting.	Medium 10
Improper fitting of the harness	Participants	High 16	Training is given to staff for the proper fitting of the harness and safety checks are implemented. Regular assessment off staff in line with Apprentices framework.	Medium 13

Walesby Forest

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