

Foxlease Park Risk Assessment



Location:	Abseil Tower	Assessor:	N Hogan-Cottiee
Date of Assessment	11/6/2025	Date of review	11/6/2026
Description of area or activity	Climbing Tower		
Equipment used:	Sit harness, chest harness, figure of 8's, sling, strops, mallions, helmets, ropes, karabiners and positioning lanyards.		

Risk factor scoring colour codes				1 - 3	4-7	8- 10		
Hazard	Description of potential accident/injury/loss	Who is affected	Precautions/controls already in place	Risk Factor= S x L			Further control measures applied	Action by:
				Severity	Likelihood	Factor		
Falling off the tower or from the wall	Major injury, possible death from fall	Participants	Instructor provides a safety briefing. All participants are clipped in when at building the tower. Equipment is checked before use, in addition to regular PPE inspections by competent and qualified staff. Sessions checked for safety by an appropriately experienced/qualified person. Qualified instructors to be in control of the safety rope all time as per safe operating procedures.	5	1	5	Are trained and assessed in operating procedures for the activity. Gates, doors are locked when the tower is not in use.	instructor
Hit by falling object	Minor injury from impact of falling object/ equipment such as rocks, equipment or participants	All Users	All participants and instructors to wear correctly fitted helmets. All loose items to be removed from participants before starting the activity such as money mobile phones etc	5	2	10		Instructor
Falling down the stairs	Serious injury, possible fatality if falling down: several flights of stairs,	All users	Customers are instructed, during the activity safety briefing not to run. The instructors should ensure that if it is wet and the steps are slippery, that the groups use the hand rails. On the	3	3	9		

	backwards, hitting head on the structure.		tower, participants are instructed to face the steps when ascending or descending					
Falling to the ground from a low level	Possible minor injury from a low level fall	Participants	Instructors to ensure slack is taken out of the system. Instructor to be aware that the first few feet of the first few steps present the highest risk of falling to the ground. Adequate supervision of the belay team.	2	3	6		Instructor
injury due to ill-fitting equipment	Major injury, possible death, from fall	Participants	All instructors are trained in the correct use and fitting of sit harness/chest harnesses and full body harnesses. Instructors to check participants harness before and join the session to ensure that it is tight around the waist. Good to go cheques as per the safe operating procedures to be made. The weight limit on the activity is 100 kgs	5	1	5	Instructor session observations are undertaken by an appropriate experience\ qualified person as per the safe operating procedures.	Instructor
Failure of equipment	major injury, possible death, from fall	All users	Equipment is tested and inspected at manufacturing. A 6-monthly inspection by qualified inspectors. A 3-monthly inspection by qualified/trained staff. A weekly inspection is done by qualified/trained staff. Before/During use inspection done by instructor. Weight limit on activities is 100 kgs	5	1	5	All equipment issues as per manufacturers guidelines	Foxlease Park Senior staff
Slips, Trips & Falls (Ground height)	Minor injuries	Participants Instructors Leader	Helmets to be worn always inside the compound. Be made aware of any steps or objects on the ground. Shoelaces to be tied up. Appropriate Footwear to be worn inside compound. Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. No running in the compound.	3	2	6		Instructor
Adverse weather: lightening	Hit by lightning possible death	All users	Activity not to be used in lighting weather. No running in the compound. Clear Briefing/Instructions, full	3	1	3	The 3030 rule is followed open brackets if the flash to bang is 30 seconds in length would less you	Instructor

			understanding. Appropriate lighting when required. Weather forecast will be checked by senior member of staff on the day.				should seek some shelter. Staying inside the shelter is advised until 30 minutes past the last clap at Thunder close brackets	
Adverse weather: high wind	Customers blown off the elements unexpectedly and get tangled in the elements, possible cuts and bruises	All users	The activity will be cancelled if the winds are forecast higher than 25 mph- if during the day the wind speeds exceed 25 mph the activity will be postponed until the wind reduces or it would be rescheduled	3	1	3		Instructor
Slips, trips and falls from uneven ground	minor injuries, bruises, sprains and strains.	All users	Have typically takes place in the natural environment where the ground is often uneven, wet, slippery. Participants and instructors to wear appropriate clothes to footwear for the environment. In areas where added protection has been used such as matting, woodchip, artificial flooring then this must be well maintained and fit for use.	2	3	6		Instructor
Structure Failure	Structural failure whilst in use affecting the users and the people in the media presenting causing serious injury or death	Participants Instructors Leaders Spectators	Structure inspection by external accessors (non-tree elements). Arborists report on tree elements. 3 Monthly inspection on structure (non-tree elements). Weekly visual inspection from ground level by qualified/trained staff. Before/During use inspection done by instructor. 6ft Fenced area for compound.	5	1	5		Foxlease Park
Entanglement	Jewellery, clothing or other items trapped causing equipment failure	Participants	Ensure all Long hair is tied up/back as appropriate. Non-loose clothing to be worn. Helmets to be worn always inside the compound. Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding.	4	2	6		Instructor
Falling objects	Minor injuries from impact of falling object such as crates or participants	Participants Instructors Leaders Spectators	Correctly fitted helmets to be worn inside the compound. Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. 6ft Fenced area for	5	1	5		Instructor

			compound. 1-2 person to be near stack at a time, keeping area clear as possible. Arborists report on trees.					
Behavioural Problems	Crowd control causing the instructor to need to intervene. Quick behaviour causing instructor to intervene and stop safeguarding level is higher due to only one staff member present	Participants Instructors Leaders	Each group will be accompanied by a responsible adult they are responsible for the behaviour and the pastoral care of the group who stop, however on occasion that the leader may need to step away from the activity. Instructors up at safeguarding training and are aware of their position within the group.				Instructors are aware if they need to, they can end slash pause the session or help the participants it out. Instructions can radio the office for a senior member of staff for backup if required.	Instructor
Hair/jewellery/clothing or other items caught in abseil device	Entanglement in figure of eight causing entrapment, finger injuries, participant trapped on the wall.	Participants	All participants advised to remove or tuck out the way all jewellery before the start of session. Hair should be tied up or out of the way of the abseil device. If wedding rings cannot be taken off, then tape can be offered to cover up and prevent snagging. All instructors trained & assessed in how to tie and use a resealable knot in emergency trapping whilst descending as set out in the SOP.	3	3	9	Everyone in the compound will be wearing a helmet	Instructor
Participants using the area unsupervised	Falling from height causing serious injury or death	All users	Abseil areas have clear signage warning or dangers and only entering with a member of Foxies Future staff. All access to towers is restricted with locked doors /fences. Instructors to ensure good group control and correct PPE is worn during activity sessions.	5	1	5		Instructor
Fall from height due to incorrect belaying	Major injury, possible death from fall	All users	Instructors must always be in a position where they can take control of the dead rope during a group belay. Instructors must always be holding the dead rope if there are less than 2 other people tailing the rope. Sessions checked for safety by an appropriately experienced/qualified person.	5	1	5		Instructor
Tampering of climbing setup	Potential for ropes to be unclipped fall from	All participants	Instructors to check anchors at the top of the climb whilst setting up the activity and check the setup in	5	1	5		Instructor

	height, broken bones, death		between sessions and before the start of every session.					
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