



Kenelm Youth Trust
 Alton Castle & Soli Retreat Centres
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Alton Castle Activity Risk Assessment – Crate Stack Activity – “Crates”

Hazards	Who is affected	Likelihood	Severity	Risk Control Measure	Comment Actions	Residual risk
Harnesses and helmets incorrectly fitted	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Very Likely	Harmful	All participants are briefed in the correct fitting of all climbing equipment Activity Leader to check equipment at the start of the session, each time this equipment is put on and prior to an individual climbing or Participants work in a buddy system to check each other and then checked by the Activity Leader	Leader to provide safety briefing.	Low
Injury due to falling or being dropped	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Disabling or fatal injury	The speed of lower off is controlled by the Activity Leader. Leader to be in position of maximum usefulness so as to take physical control when needed.	Activity leader to directly (Hands on) supervise lower offs.	Low
Karabiner is cross loaded or rope runs over collar / thimble causing the gate to open and potential for loss of hitch.	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Disabling or fatal injury	Alton Castle will only use Karabiners fitted with a locking bar which prevents reversing, cross loading or inadvertent gate opening. Karabiners will be attached so that they are back bar loaded i.e. gate facing the floor.		low

Hair, jewellery or clothing trapped in equipment	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	Before climbing participants are asked to remove jewellery, tuck away hair, loose clothing and draw cords etc.	Leader to provide safety briefing.	Low
The belay device and belaying	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	Either Activity Leader will belay or will monitor the participants belaying themselves. Activity Leader to train the participants in the correct techniques to belay (and then supervise) prior to belaying	Leader to provide safety briefing and demonstration.	Low
Rope burn	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Slight Harm	The speed of lower off is controlled by the Activity Leader to minimise rope burn, employ hand over hand lowering. Activity Leader to brief the participants on the possibility of rope burn when belaying.	Activity leader to directly supervise lower offs.	Low
Peer Belaying	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Disabling or fatal injury	Instructors to dynamically risk assess belay teams for ability (competence and responsibility) to peer belay. Instructors fully understanding the difference between direct “hands on” & remote “hands off” supervision.	Activity Leaders to position themselves in the position of maximum usefulness so they can directly supervise “hands on” at a moments notice.	Low
Access / De-conflicting With Mountain Biking	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Disabling or fatal injury	The Crate store door is opened to 90° creating a physical barrier to prevent third parties straying into the Crate Stack Activity Station. Once activity has started access around the crate stack activity station is cordoned off.	Activity Leaders to ensure that Bikers leave the moat by the right-hand arch on the way out and the left-hand arch on the return.	Low

Faulty equipment	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Very Unlikely	Harmful	Each rope has its own log entry. Ropes and other safety equipment are constantly checked, monitored and replaced when necessary. Alton Castle only use CE rated Climbing equipment.	Activity Leaders to monitor equipment and report any defects. Instructor to periodically inspect and maintain equipment log. Annual inspection of Anchor points. Anchor slings to be checked prior to session commencing	Low
Misuse	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Unlikely	Harmful	Activity Leaders are trained and locally accredited by a suitably qualified Technical Adviser to run the activity.		Low
Clipping into gear loop	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	All gear loops removed from harnesses.		Low
Inversion/fall	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Very Unlikely	Harmful	Activity Leaders will provide clear instruction to avoid inversion or falls Activity Leaders to ensure correct use and fitting of equipment Full Body Harnesses worn by climbers	Activity Leaders to fit improvised chest harness where required.	Low
Falling objects (crates)	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Slight Harm	Helmets must always be worn whilst taking part in the activity A safe area must be established away from the activity. Activity Leader to brief the participants on action to take if accidentally dropping dislodging something (i.e. shout 'below') and action to take if you hear 'below' being shouted		Low
Asthma attacks and other medical	Visiting Children,	Unlikely	Harmful	All group members will be told to bring any medication over to the Activity	Leader to provide safety briefing.	Low

conditions	Teachers and Staff			Station with them. Other medical conditions should have been reported to the programme leader and the team will be informed. Teachers will be advised of suitability of the activity. Activity Leaders are First Aid trained and have access to a First Aid Kit and mobile phone	Leaders to check that medication is present.	
Visiting teachers 'helping' at wrong time without training	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	Teachers to be briefed by Activity Leaders as to what is required of them prior to the activity.	Leader to provide safety briefing. Leaders to monitor school staff.	Low
Mismatch in size / weight within smaller groups	Visiting Children, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	Activity leader to monitor belayers		Low

The Minimum National Governing Body Qualification to lead this activity is: M.L.T.B. Climbing Wall Award or staff have had their competence confirmed by an appropriately qualified and experienced technical adviser.

Risk assessment Conducted By / Qualification	Reviewed By	Date	Next scheduled review	Signed	Signed Off By:
Dom Salter MLTB SPA	Dom Salter	23 rd May 2019	May 2020		