



Kenelm Youth Trust
 Alton Castle & Soli Retreat Centres
 Alton
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Alton Castle Activity Risk Assessment – Mountain Biking

Hazards	Who is affected	Likelihood	Severity	Risk Control Measure	Comment Actions	Residual risk
General	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	n/a	n/a	Activity Leaders to check weather forecast prior to each ride. Alton Castle to hold a stock of spare clothing and equipment. Activity Leaders are to prevent inappropriately dressed individuals from Riding. Activity Leaders to have suitable adverse weather plans in place – i.e. sheltered routes, shorter routes, etc. Activity Leaders will carry a mobile phone. Activity Leaders must be current 1 st Aid holders to lead a Mountain Biking activity	Activity Leader to plan ahead.	Low
Cold and wet conditions	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	Activity Leaders to check participants clothing and equipment prior to departure, ensuring participants have adequate warm and waterproof clothing for the activity	Activity Leader to ensure.	Low
Over heating	Visiting Children, Team Leaders,	Likely	Harmful	Activity Leaders must ensure adequate water is available, and used Activity Leader must ensure a	Activity Leader to ensure.	Low

	Teachers and Staff			reasonable pace is set in relation to the condition of the group and the weather		
Sunburn	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	When applicable, Activity Leaders to monitor the participants, paying particular attention to sunscreen and suitable clothing		Low
Lightning	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Highly Unlikely	Fatal	Activity Leaders are not to take participants out in a lightning storm If caught out in a lightning storm, then the Activity Leader must take the participants to where it is safe to be during a storm.		Low
Snow and ice	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Very Harmful	An alternate activity will be substituted for Mountain biking during periods of snow and ice.	Programme Leader/Activity instructor to provide alternative activity	Low
Participants getting lost (individual and group) or participant being separated from the group	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Unlikely	Slight Harm	All team members will be familiar with routes. There will be one team member riding at the front and one at the back at all times, and they will make sure there is visual contact at all times. Both leaders will have a mobile phone to make contact with each other.		low
De-conflicting from Crate Stack Activity	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers	Likely	Very Harmful	All Biking groups are to leave the moat via the right-hand arch under the bridge. Crate Stack will open the Crate store door to 90° causing a physical barrier to	Both MTB and Crate Stack Instructors to be conversant with Alton Castles SOP's	Low

	and Staff			the left-hand arch		
Collision	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers, Staff and public	Likely	Harmful	Participants are requested to keep a couple of bike lengths apart so as to avoid collisions. Activity Leaders to marshal the group so as to avoid collisions with the Public.		Low
Concurrent Bike Rides colliding or groups using Night Line	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers, Staff and public	Likely	Very Harmful	It is the responsibility of the Centre Directors / PL's (Soli, Castle, BCYS and or Summer Camp co-ordinators) to ensure that they have de-conflicted their respective rides so that this can never happen.	Directors to communicate effectively	Low
Being hit by vehicles whilst crossing or walking along tracks or roads	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers, Staff and public	Likely	Very Harmful	Few tracks/roads are used on the route. The first and last group member (team) must wear high visibility Kit Bags. The centre is in communication with Forest enterprises and are informed of logging operations in Dimmingsdale	Single road crossing on year 7 and above route road crossing conducted in accordance with standard operating procedure.	Low
Individuals unable to ride a bike or unsuited to the ride	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Unlikely	Harmful	Expectations will be made clear to the group in advance. MBLA L1 can refuse to take a group member on a bike ride on ability grounds. An assessment exercise will be undertaken prior to leaving on the bike ride to ascertain each group member's ability. This will involve getting on and off the bike, riding, steering, braking and manoeuvring. Anyone deemed by the Instructor not competent will be put on a different activity.		Low
	Visiting	Likely	Harmful	Group management through	Instructor to	Low

Livestock	Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff			fields containing livestock	determine weather it is necessary to walk with bikes in single file.	
Falling off bikes due to uneven / rough terrain on tracks / travelling too fast / steep gradient	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Very Harmful	Group members to be briefed on the nature of the tracks prior to departure. Team Members to adjust the speed at which the group is travelling to suit the changing ground conditions / surface type. Any new hazards to be reported by Team Members upon their return for onward communication and awareness. First Decent of any ride is as a group "Braked Roll". Instructors to fully brief participants and work together as pace setters left hand biker peels off to act as sweeper from the bottom of the fence.		low
Asthma Attacks/other medical conditions	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Unlikely	Harmful	All medical information will be declared in advance. Teachers advised of suitability of activity. All current medicines and inhalers to be taken on the activity.		Low
Injury (Bangs, scrapes, cuts & breakages)	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Likely	Harmful	The cyclists will be fitted with helmets that conform to British Safety Standards (ANSI Z90.4) The session will be run in accordance with the Health and Safety Guidelines at the centre. All team members are first aid qualified. Gloves should be worn by all on this activity. Closes toed footwear must be worn by all participants.	Gloves are Provided by the Centre.	Low

Failure on a part of the bike	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Unlikely	Harmful	All bikes are checked regularly by an appropriately Qualified mechanic and each team member will check and log out each bike at the end of an activity. A minor repair kit will be taken on each ride. The team members are trained in minor repairs. Following a serious accident (RIDDOR reportable) the bike involved must be taken offline until it can be fully serviced by the Centres Mechanic.		Low
Water	Visiting Children, Team Leaders, Teachers and Staff	Highly Unlikely	Fatal	River Churnet is crossed by means of a bridge. Bridge has handrails fitted to both sides.	Instructor to exercise their judgment to curtail ride in times of flood.	Low

Minimum NGB Qualification to lead this Activity under the auspices of Alton Castle is BC Level 1 MBLA

Risk assessment Conducted By	Reviewed By	Date	Next scheduled review	Signed	Signed Off By
Dom Salter British Cycling MBLA L2	Dom Salter	23 rd May 2019	May 2020		