

Braeside Education Centre - Activity Risk Assessment

Assessment of:	Climbing Tower inc. Roped Climbing, Abseil, TruBlue's, Alf's & Zip Wire		Venue:	Braeside education centre – Climbing Tower	
Assessor:	Josh Simons		Date:	Jan 2026	Review Date: Jan 2027
❖ Please also see: Rescue from height RA ❖ General use and top of wall					
ID	Hazards Identified I.e.: what can cause harm?	Persons at Risk I.e.: who could be harmed by the hazard?	Current Risk Factor (High, medium, or low) I.e.: determine the level of risk	Actions to be Taken to Minimize each Risk I.e.: what action can you take to lower the level of risk	New Risk Factor (High, medium, or low) I.e.: risk factor after action taken to minimize the risk
1	Falling (max height 10 m)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants only to be clipped/unclipped to ascending devices by a trained person. This includes a trained-up member of the participant group (18+ only) Participant to be attached to abseil & zip only by trained instructor. Participants to always be connected by at least one cow's tail when on platform, only released by qualified instructor when fully connected to next equipment set. Instructors working at height must have two fixed attachments unless undertaking an activity that a participant could do. One must be above if possible. All Participants will be briefed not to touch or use metalwork. Qualified instructor to always be present except in exceptional circumstance as approved by head of centre 	Low

Braeside Education Centre - Activity Risk Assessment



Braeside Education
Centre

2	Falling items (equipment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants Anyone entering the fenced climbing area. 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All persons not on waiting benches inside the tower area to wear helmets. No helmets to be worn when using Auto belaying/lowering by climbers whilst on the climbing structure. Keep people away from area underneath and no loose items on person, empty pockets before climbing. 	Low
3	Jewellery, long hair, and clothing catching or snagging on equipment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure hair is tied back and jewellery is removed. Loose baggy clothing to be avoided or tucked away 	Low
4	Structure or kit failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants Anyone in proximity 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure checked by course builder on a yearly basis, by competent person on at least a 3 monthly basis and a visual check on the day of uses. All Equipment to have a visual check before session All Equipment to be check on a 3 monthly basis. Refer to Trublue, and ALF operating procedures for safe use of the device and all operating procedures concerning the use of the tower. Trublue devices have inspection prior to use and 6-monthly inspection, also have annual service by Entre Prises ALF systems check yearly by external company, daily function check before operation 	Low
5	Slips, Trips and Falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants Anyone entering climbing area 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal briefing about uneven surface, slippery decking on top of wall. Top of wall to be kept clean of debris on regular basis. Verbal warning of ground anchors. Ground anchors Brightly taped. 	Low

Braeside Education Centre - Activity Risk Assessment



Braeside Education
Centre

6	Injury of qualified instructor – loss of instructor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two members of Braeside staff to be on site when climbing session are being run. 	Medium
7	Incorrectly fitted kit, or participants fiddling with kit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harness it be checked at time of fitting by a trained person Harness checked before client leaves ground level. Participants warn to not fiddling or alter their own kit Briefed to speak to instructor if feels uncomfortable or needs to remover adjusted or re fitted (toilets) 	Low
8	Medical incident on top of tower	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A first aid trained Braeside instructor to be present. Suitable qualified member of staff to be on site to deal with any rescues or managed lower offs from climbing wall. 	Low
❖ Roped Climbing.					
9	Falling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See ID 1 Set up and karabiners and all knots to be checked by instructor before start and throughout session. Use of DMM Belay master karabiners to add extra safety on participants climbing. 	Low
10	Swinging into other participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climber briefed to stay on their stated route. Instructor to make sure climbing starts on correct route. Routes suitably spread out. Belay to stay line to stop rope slid on top belay bar. 	Low

Braeside Education Centre - Activity Risk Assessment



Braeside Education
Centre

11	Belayer fails to control system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See ID 1 Belayer to always be backed up by another individual and ground anchored. Possibly left 'tied off' for short periods but monitored. Instructors to only be supervising: 2 belayers at a time if using ATC's, 3 belayers at a time if using assisted breaking devise. 	Low
12	Injury from holding inappropriate parts of the equipment, ie fingers caught in belay device, rope burn etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants Instructor 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief to be given on where to hold and where not to before climbing and belaying. Instructor to monitor belaying throughout 	Low
13	Participant slipping on descent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief to be given how to descend (abseil position) Helmets to be worn. Brief to be given on how slippery the wall may be 	Medium
❖ Climbing on auto belay (TruBlue's)					
14	Trublue Malfunction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Id 4 Trublue devices have Daily and weekly inspection prior to use and 6-monthly inspection, also have annual service by Entre Prises. All in accordance with head rush guidance. 	Low
15	In correct clipping in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See ID 1 	Low
16	Climber getting caught on climbing holds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helmets must be taken off before using auto belay/descending devices. Loose baggy clothing to be avoided or tucked away Participant taught how to descend properly and warned of risks of not doing so correctly 	low

Braeside Education Centre - Activity Risk Assessment

❖ Use Of Auto Ladder Fall Arrest systems (ALF's) and use of ladder and Block Climb (Route 1 Angled Wall)					
17	Equipment Malfunction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See ID 4 Function Test Before Daily Use In situ ropes and equipment checked visually before use. 	Low
18	Falling off ladder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use of ladder to be closely monitored by Braeside staff. 3 points of contact with the ladder. Helmets to be worn when using ladder. Awareness raised of potential swing if losing balance on climb up. 	Low
19	Falling into wall on block climb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helmets to be worn when using block climb Verbal brief on slippery wood Rope to be keep taught for unsteady climbers if necessary. Not held on to if they fall. 	Low
20	Incorrect clipping in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff participants 	high	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See ID 1 Instructor to supervise and manage all clipping. Karabiner to be secured at top, to avoid unsupervised clipping. 	Low
❖ Abseiling					
21	Equipment Malfunction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See ID 4 In situ equipment checked visually before use. 	Low
22	Jewellery, long hair, clothing & hands catching in equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See ID 3 Descender on extension to keep further away from participant. Participants briefed where to hold the rope to keep their hands away from descender. 	Low
23	Participant letting go of their descending rope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participant 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants always to be backed up on a safety rope by an instructor. 	Low

Braeside Education Centre - Activity Risk Assessment



Braeside Education
Centre

24	Participant slipping on descent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief to be given how to descend (abseil position) Helmets to be worn. Brief to be given on how slippery the wall may be. Instructor to be watching and communicating where necessary to help participant stay in correct position 	Low
25	Entering landing zone when abseil is in use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants Anyone entering climbing area 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only Climber and staff to be in landing area Brief to be given about keeping area clear Instructor to check the area is clear before letting Participant down Instructor to watch the Participant the whole way down and stop their descent if needed. Ground person to be in control of the waiting group, keeping them in waiting area. 	Low
26	Burn from hot Descender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants Ground person 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal warning the equipment may get hot Lowering speed controlled by instructor to reduce heat build up 	Low
27	Burn from rope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lowering speed controlled by instructor to reduce heat build up Correct friction hitch to be used to reduce friction on instructor's hands. Gloves to be used if necessary 	low
❖ Zip Wire					
28	Incorrect clipping in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff participants 	high	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See ID 1 	Low
29	Items falling from the person as they "zip"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants By standers under zip wire. 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All loose items to be removed from participants before Descending. Drag back rope to be securely coiled and held by participants 	Low

Braeside Education Centre - Activity Risk Assessment



Braeside Education
Centre

30	Impact against climbing wall, End platform, or zip end platform staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants Braeside Staff 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participant to be briefed to step out from wall when leaving not to sit down Zip top instructor to check with zip end instructor before sending participant Zip end instructor to make sure platform in clear before giving consent to send participant Participant to be connected at a suitable height so they do not contact the platform 	Low
31	Steps at descent / landing point falling or slipping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants Braeside Staff 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steps are supervised by zip end instructor Make sure drag back rope is not a trip hazard Participants are asked to walk down steps 	Low
32	Hitting step ladder if left in place during descent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Step ladder no longer used as main method of exiting zip wire; they may still be used if needed. Zip end instructor to make sure they are removed after use. Zip top to visual check for a clear run and to wait for consent from zip end instructor. 	Low
33	Jewellery, long hair, and clothing catching or snagging on equipment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See ID 3 Zip end instructor to make sure descender is clear from and hazards before operation. Trees to be regular trimmed back. Visual check for overhanging trees before start of session. 	Low
34	Smoke hazard (zip wire is over survival area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants Braeside Staff 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any groups building fires MUST ensure that the fires are not directly underneath the Zipwire due to possible effects upon wire. Fires should not be lit if smoke/wind direction is towards zip platform or wires. 	Low

Braeside Education Centre - Activity Risk Assessment



Braeside Education
Centre

35	Not making it to end platform/ unconscious Participant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Participants	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Drag back rope can be used to drag to platform. If rope cannot be used rescue procedure to be followedPole hook can be used to retrieve if within its reach or to pull down on wire and let gravity bring the participant to you.	Low
----	--	--	--------	--	-----