

Braeside Education Centre - Activity Risk Assessment



Assessment of:		High Ropes Course including Crate Stack, Leap of Faith, Jacobs Ladder, High All Aboard, & Parallel poles		Venue:	Braeside education centre – High Ropes Course		
Assessor:		Josh Simons		Date:	Jan 2026	Review Date:	Jan 2027
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
❖ Please also see: Rescue from height RA ❖ General							
1	Falling (max height 12 m)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants only to be clipped/unclipped by a trained person. Instructors working at height must have two fixed attachments unless undertaking an activity that a participant could do. One must be above. All Participants will be briefed not to touch or use metalwork. Qualified/Trained instructor to be present at all times, All set up to be checked before use by a trained instructor 			Low
2	Jewellery, long hair, and clothing catching or snagging	<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. Any loose baggy clothing to be avoided or tucked in. 			Low

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3	Structure or kit failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Braeside Staff • Participants • Anyone in proximity 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Routine checks, Operational inspection (3 months), periodical inspections and Tree Inspection are all carried out. • Anyone entering the high ropes area must be wearing a helmet. 	Low
4	Trips and slips on ground and course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Braeside Staff • Participants • Anyone in proximity 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal briefing about uneven surface, slippery decking on top of platform. • Decking cleared and scrubbed when necessary. • Verbal warning of ground anchors. • Ground anchors brightly taped. • Slack to be kept out of belay system to avoid excessive falls. 	Low
5	Injury of qualified/trained 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 high ropes sessions are being run. 	Medium
6	Incorrectly fitted kit, or participants fiddling with kit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harness and helmets to be checked at time of fitting by a trained person. • Harness and helmets checked before participant leaves ground level. • Participants warn to not fiddle or alter their own kit • Briefed to speak to instructor if feels uncomfortable or needs removing, adjusting or re fitting. 	Low
7	Medical incident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Braeside Staff • Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A first aid trained Braeside instruction 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

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8	Belayer fails to control system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Untrained Belayers to always be backed up by another individual and ground anchored. Instructors to only supervise 2 belayers at a time. Assisted braking devices can be used. 	Low
❖ Crate Stack					
9	Injury from crates – finger traps sharp edges etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Users warned about getting fingers / hands / feet stuck in crate holes. Any broken crates with sharp edges to be removed or sanded smooth. 	Medium
10	Participant collision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Users warned and have awareness raised of participants collision with each other, crate stack, and Poles. Helmets to be worn by all participants. Crate passes to be given instructions of safe areas to stand. 	Medium
11	Crates/climbers swinging through the air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Users warned to turn away as crates fall. Encourage passers to stay on up hill side and stand away from stack as it falls or pushed. Everyone to be moved out of area when crates are falling. 	Medium
❖ Leap of Faith					
12	Participant climbing before clipped or belayer ready	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No one to enter climbing area until asked. Verbal brief to wait till instructed to climb. If two instructors, good communication between instructors. 	Low
13	Ground fall from rope stretch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participant asked not to jump from ladder. Belayer to keep rope as tight as possible. Ladder to be tied tight to pole. See ID 17 	Low

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14	Participant collision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braeside Staff Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal brief that they may swing back into the pole/platform even more so if they fall/jump before platform. Brief participant to use hands and feet to protect body and try to turn and face pole. Instructor to limit swing with a rope catch on a planned fall. 	Low
15	Rope Burn when jumping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warned about hazards of rope holding in brief. Reminded before jumping if necessary. 	Low
16	Jumping before belayer is ready (Hard catch / whip lash)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants Braeside Staff 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description of methods of leaving platform. Briefed to wait till instructed to go. Good communication between instructor and participant. Instructor to be as dynamic as possible when belay. Dynamic Rope to be used 	Low
17	Participant outweighing belayer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants Braeside Staff 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor to clip to ground anchor if they suspect the weight of the participant is above or close to their own. Dynamic rope to be used and sheer reduction blocks in use. 	Low
❖ Jacobs Ladder					
18	Participant climbing before clipped or belayer ready	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal brief to wait until instructed to climb. Good communication between instructors. Bottom two runs removed when not in use. 	Low
19	Holding/pulling of wires/ropes/pole/people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefed on what can and cannot be held or pulled on. Repeated throughout session if necessary. Warning of splinters. 	Low

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20	Contact with other participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefed to always be aware of where their limbs are and to look out for others. Only use another participant to stand on if they are willing. Warned to take care when helping each other up. Instructor to step in and stop participants if they feel an injury may get caused. 	Low
21	Participant climbing too fast for belayers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor to supervise/back up there two ropes and to stop climber if necessary. 	Low
22	Contact with poles/wires on decent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor to control all lowering. One participant to be lowered at a time Participants briefed to use feet to hold them self away from poles. Ladder can be pulled away from descending climber if needed. 	Low
❖ High All Aboard					
24	Participant climbing before clipped or belayer ready	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal brief to wait until instructed to climb. Good communication between instructor and participant. Instructor to always have eyes on pole. 	Low
25	Holding/pulling of ropes /people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefed on what can and cannot be held or pulled on. Repeated throughout session if necessary. 	Low
26	Contact with other participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warned to take care when helping each other up. Instructor to step in and stop participants if they feel an injury may get caused. 	Low
27	Participant climbing too fast for belayers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor to back up belayer and to stop climber if necessary. 	Low

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28	Contact with pole on decent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor to control all lowering. One participant to be lowered at a time Participants briefed to use feet to hold them self away from poles. 	Low
29	Belayer being left with tied off belay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal brief before they are left with tied off belay. Tail of rope clip up if necessary Supporting adult/instructor to be left with belay in necessary 	Low
❖ Parallel Poles					
30	Participant climbing before clipped or belayer ready	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal brief to wait until instructed to climb. Good communication between instructor and participant 	Low
31	Contact with other participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warned to take care when passing and to work together. Instructor to step in and stop participants if they feel an injury may get caused. Instructor not to lower until other participant is out of the way 	Low
32	Contact with pole/ropes/platforms on decent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor to control all lowering. One participant to be lowered at a time. Participants briefed to use feet to hold themselves away from course. 	Low
33	Ground fall from rope stretch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participant asked not to jump from ladder. Belayer to keep rope as tight as possible. Ladder to be tied tight to pole. 	Low
34	Slipping on course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief that care to be taken by participant while on course Warn Participants that racing could cause injury if they slip 	Low