

Beaudesert Outdoor Activity Centre

Abseiling Risk Assessment

What are the hazards? What can cause harm?	Who might be harmed	What are you already doing? What are you doing to control hazards and the chance of someone getting hurt?	Do you need to do anything else to control this risk? By following this risk assessment, are the hazards & chances of someone being harmed adequately controlled?
		See 'Generic Site Risk Assessment' and 'Generic off ground Risk Assessment'	
Slips, Trips and Falls when off the ground.	Group	Suitable footwear to be worn by participants. Full briefing from the instructor prior to activity commencing. The steps can be slippery so this needs to be briefed.	Tolerable if controls are followed
Falling from the top of the Quarry	Group & Instructor & members of public	Area is fenced off. Warning signs. Group leaders to control group members. Only one participant per qualified instructor allowed in the fenced area at a time. Before participants enter the fenced area, they must be clipped in and belayed by the qualified instructor. Instructor to be clipped into cows tail at all times.	Tolerable if controls are followed
Head Injuries from contact with the quarry wall	Group	Helmets to be worn by participants. Briefed on the correct abseil position prior to activity commencing.	Trivial if controls are followed
Falling debris	Group	Helmets to be worn by participants at all time. Brief the group and ensure they keep their helmets on at all times, especially at the bottom of the quarry. Instructor to be vigilant and avoid dropping any equipment/knocking any debris over the edge of the quarry.	Tolerable if controls are followed
Items of clothing/fingers/hair etc caught in the descender	Group	All loose clothing to be tucked away. Neckerchiefs/scarfs to be removed. Long hair tied back and tucked away. Abseil rope to be rigged so it is releasable. Extender to be added to the belay plate if required to reduce risk.	Tolerable if controls are followed

Reviews Undertaken: Reviewed by Hallam O'Shea – 06/06/2017 Richard Irvine 5th August 2018 and 3/12/2019 Nigel Ruse 2021; Michael Barrett 2022 & 2023 Richard Irvine March 2024 and February 2025.

Risk Assessment Approved by: Richard Irvine

Date: February 2025