

CYC BURLEIGH – RISK ASSESSMENT CLIMBING/ABSEILING (NATURAL SURFACES)

LOCATION: Turtle Rock (Numinbah Valley), Point Danger (Coolangatta), Mt Tinbeerwah (Noosa)

RATIO: 1:16. Minimum 2 Group Leaders

Likelihood	Consequence				
	1 – Insignificant	2 – Minor	3 – Moderate	4 – Major	5 – Critical
5 – Almost Certain	Medium	Medium	High	Extreme	Extreme
4 – Likely	Low	Medium	High	High	Extreme
3 – Possible	Low	Medium	High	High	High
2 – Unlikely	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
1 – Rare	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium

Risk level			Action required
<input type="checkbox"/>	Low	Little chance of incident or injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage risk through regular planning process
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium	Some chance of an incident and injury requiring first aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage risk through regular planning process & complete this form Parent/carer consent required for underage participants
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	High	Likely chance of a significant injury requiring medical treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage risk through regular planning process & complete this form Parent/carer consent required for underage participants Principal or head of program approval is required prior to conducting the activity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extreme	High chance of a serious incident resulting in a highly debilitating injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider conducting an alternate activity or make modifications to the activity that could achieve comparable learning outcomes Manage risk through regular planning process & complete this form Parent/carer consent required for underage participants Principal or head of program approval is required prior to conducting the activity

Supervision requirements

All CYC instructors/leaders/staff:

- will carry first aid kits
- have a current blue card/working with children check
- have been assessed and deemed competent in the respective activity
- have the following qualifications as a minimum:
 - HLTAID013 Provide first aid in remote or isolated site
 - HLTAID011 Provide first aid
 - HLTAID010 Provide basic emergency life support
 - HLTAID009 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation
 - PUAOP013A Operate communication systems and equipment
 - SISOABS003 Abseil single pitches, natural surfaces
 - SISOABS006 Establish ropes for single pitch abseiling on natural surfaces
 - SISOABS009 Lead single pitch abseiling activities on natural surfaces
 - SISOFLD006 Navigate in tracked environments
 - SISORSC002 Perform vertical rescues

Equipment/facility requirements

- All CYC instructors/leaders carry mobile phone and/or UHF radio and/or satellite communication device
- Emergency vehicle access is available
- All equipment meets Australian standards (where applicable) and is in good working order

Hazards

Environmental hazards	Control measure
Environmental conditions Weather, Surfaces, Surrounds	CYC Sun Safety Policy must be followed Follow the managing excessive heat in schools guidelines when participating in very hot or extreme heat conditions. Monitor participants for cold related illness (e.g., hypothermia) in cold weather conditions. Ensure drink breaks occur regularly. Make water available for individual participants between drink breaks. Assess site for unstable rocks, dead tree limbs, harmful fauna and flora.

Facilities and equipment hazards	Control measure
Heights Falling from height	Assess and manage risks associated with working at heights.
Faulty or dangerous equipment	Remove any equipment from the activity area that poses a risk to participants. Ensure all safety equipment is in place and in good condition.
Student considerations	Control measure
Injury	Students aware of the location of emergency and first-aid equipment.
Physical exertion Exhaustion and fatigue	Monitor students for signs of fear, hesitancy, loss of balance, fatigue, disorientation and/or exhaustion.
Student considerations	Conduct appropriate lead-up activities (e.g., trust, cooperation, communication). Provide suitable options to allow 'challenge by choice'. Provide scaffolded experiences to build participant skill level, knowledge, and experience. Adopt a system of signals to clearly communicate the need for assistance if in difficulty. Guide students through an activity or provide a demonstration prior to undertaking the activity. Remove accessories (e.g., jewellery) before participating. Ensure fingernails and hair do not pose a hazard. Implement procedures (e.g., buddy system, roll marking mechanisms) to account for all participants.
Visibility	Have students wear easily identifiable clothing (e.g., high visibility rash vest). Ensure staff can easily recognise those students with health support needs and are familiar with their needs.

Further control measures

- CYC will make every effort to ensure all participants are included in the lesson. However, it is the responsibility of the participant themselves and/or their teacher/care giver, to decide whether the activity is suitable for the participant in question, taking into consideration the terrain, equipment provided, physical ability of the participant and any other factors that may impact the participant's ability to participate.
- It is the school's responsibility to ensure a supervising teacher/adult remains with any student in need of individual support, at all times.
- Check activity location on the day of the event for unexpected hazards.

When considering 'further controls' start at the top of the following 'hierarchy of control'- the higher on this list the more reliable the control:

- Eliminate – some activities may need to be eliminated if the risks can't be controlled e.g. swimming in a dangerous rock pool
- Substitute - lower risk activity with same outcome e.g. swimming at a patrolled beach between the flags
- Redesign - change or reorder activities e.g. swimming activity changed to a cooler time of day to avoid peak sun exposure
- Isolate – provide clear instructions to participants at the start of an activity e.g. set boundaries to keep participants out of problem areas
- Admin controls – plan & coordinate each action of an activity e.g. clear rules & expectations for activity, supervision roster
- Personal protective equipment – last option that should be considered but, in some cases, the only practical control e.g. approved helmet for horse riding

Review

This workplace health and safety risk assessment is to be reviewed when:

- Review date is reached
- An incident where staff or students are injured
- Any staff member considers the level of risk has become unreasonable
- Circumstances change significantly
- There is new information that may influence the risk assessment

Date created	April 2015
Date modified	February 2024
Review date	February 2025