

Risk assessment & Management 2024	Single pitch climbs
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Description.

There are many sub-sports within climbing. Here we are looking at single pitch rock climbing - top / bottom rope set ups 'Single pitch' refers to a climb that can be completed without any intermediate stances, and from which the climber can safely walk off unroped from the top, or can be safely lowered to the bottom of the **climb**

At SAC this will typically be:

- On a mobile climbing wall
- at Stone Farm Rocks with TEEN camp
- a TREE climb with JUNIOR camp

Managing Risk Statement. Supervisors will hold the appropriate qualification for this activity (see [Minimum Qualifications document](#)). The quality and safety of sessions will be regularly reviewed with any outcomes being fed into the RA and policies. Inherent within this activity is the possibility of getting wet, tired and exposed to ambient weather conditions(see [Weather Policy](#))

Benefits. Adventure Activities provide a range of benefits (see [Education and Learning policy](#))

The Hazard, what is causing a risk?	Who might be affected	How we manage the risk
<p>Personal Injury</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate spotting whilst bouldering. • Jewellery being worn. • Climbing without shoes. • Rope burn – belayer • Rope burn – climber • Finger injuries 	<p>Instructors & All Participants/Group Leaders</p>	<p>Highlight danger areas (fall areas / bouldering mats etc) during initial briefing. Climb down where possible don't jump Participants should be shown how to spot correctly – this must be monitored. Jewellery that poses a risk must be removed or covered with tape. Belaying will be monitored throughout the session particularly on direction change (climb to lower). In control at all times.</p>

This Risk Assessment was adopted by SUMMERADVENTURECAMP Ltd	Adopted on: 2/1/2024
Signed By: <i>Bryn Beach</i>	Review on: Jan 2025
A Summer Adventure Camp Ltd director will review and update this document yearly AND following any near miss or incident, or should circumstances demand it.	

		<p>Climbers coached in correct position for lowers – not holding rope from belayer to top anchor, not jumping etc</p> <p>Climbers are not to use bolts / hangers / quickdraws in any way to climb.</p>
<p>Falls from height</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorrect harness fitting • Incorrect belaying 	<p>Instructors & All Participants/Group Leaders</p>	<p>Instructor to physically check all aspects of the safety chain before each climb – once participants are able to buddy check correctly (multiple sessions) then the instructor is to monitor this check.</p> <p>Instruction on safe and appropriate belaying technique to be provided - instructor to monitor.</p> <p>Instructors to work within qualification remit.</p>
<p>Stuck climber</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climber on a ledge and refusing to descend. • Climber unable to go up / down – leg / arm caught on or in a feature. 	<p>Instructors & All Participants/Group Leaders</p>	<p>Route choice – choose routes that are suitable for the group.</p>
<p>Falling / dead branches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loose or dead branches. 		<p>Visual and physical inspection during set up</p>

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		Instructor to climb (being belayed) to physically check climb
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Specific assessments		

Operating Procedures
<p><u>Before</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check medical / consent forms. • Instructor to be familiar with activity RA – specifically any site specific notes. • Check the weather forecast – does your plan still work. • Check if there any venue restrictions (bird ban / road closures / rockfall) • Instructor to ensure correct kit is available for the venue / group. • Instructor to inspect all kit to ensure it is usable. • If residential course ensure the group know where to go / park etc. <p><u>During</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear briefing to highlight risks, safety measures and expectations. • Any assistants / staff to briefed on their role. • Session delivered within instructors NGB remit / inhouse training / experience and accounting for the weather / group ability. <p><u>After</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return kit. • Inform SAC of any damages or loss. • Inform course leader of any issues with group / venue to assist with planning for future.

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