

Risk Assessment – Aerial Walkway

Baseline	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Site Specific	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vulnerable Person	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>	Version	2020.1.0	Date of issue:	20/01/2020
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Operating notes:

- Aerial Walkway should be understood to refer to activities within Kingswood whereby a participant is using the rope glider continuous wire rope trolley system. This activity is only delivered at Colomendy.
- This risk assessment does not cover Kingswood staff accessing the structure for routine inspection and maintenance. Please see the 'Work at Height inspections / maintenance' risk assessment.
- Structure and equipment must be managed as per the Kingswood Equipment Management Standards.
- 2 Activity Leaders with 1 additional adult supervising group (max size 15)
- There should be a maximum of 1 active participant per element at any one time
- **Participants** - The Aerial Walkway activity should not be used by anyone (including all staff, participants and accompanying adults) that is/has:
 - Weight over 120kg (285lbs)
 - Pregnant (unless doctor's advice has been sought)
 - Any type of heart condition or heart-related issues (unless doctor's advice has been sought)
 - Any type of spinal injury or weak spine condition (unless doctor's advice has been sought)

Qualifications/ Competence:

- Activity Leaders must be in-house assessed by an MIA or ERCA trainer, or have a relevant NGB qualification plus approval from the Internal Technical Advisor; or be a Kingswood Ropes Trainer as approved by the Internal Technical Advisor
- Nominated Chief Instructor must hold a relevant NGB award and be approved by internal technical advisor.
- All Activity Leaders must have their first session observed and then frequently as per the Coaching Standards.
- All Activity Leaders are required to maintain their skill level and must attend a rescue refresh every 3 months and after lengthy periods of shut down.

Risk – Benefit Statement:

There is a low 'real' risk of injury during Aerial Walkway but a high 'perceived' risk allowing a greater basis for learning.

Hazard Description and activities giving rise to risk	Who may be harmed	Control Measures	Risk Rating
Adverse weather – Lightning or High Winds	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff must follow the ROSPA 30/30 rule for lightning. If lightning occurs suddenly then the group should vacate the area immediately. As the facility is within a woodland environment then the activity should be cancelled during high winds to prevent falling branches becoming a risk. 	Low
Unauthorised access	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access points to roped activity structures must be secured against casual or unauthorised access when the equipment is not in use. All groups are briefed to stay off all activity equipment unless supervised by Kingswood staff. 	Low`
Head Injuries	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helmets are not required to be worn on this activity as there is a very low risk of equipment falling from height and landing on a participant 	Low
Unsecure attachment to safety rope or Incorrectly fitted equipment	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check the active participant's PPE and roped attachment twice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When attaching the safety rope - This check should be visual and verbal for all group members to observe. Immediately prior to climbing - The belaying Instructor must complete a final tactile inspection prior to any participant leaving the platform 	Low
Impact with ground or other obstacle	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check secure attachment before the participant leaves the first platform. Once attached the participant is unable to detach themselves without physically untying their knot. Participant lanyards should be kept as short as possible to minimize the distance of a fall. Brief the participants that if they are to slip from the obstacle they are likely to bump into the surrounding obstacles. 	Low
Entrapment	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief and check the participant has tucked away and secured any loose or baggy clothing. Brief and check the participant has removed any large or dangly jewellery. Brief and check the participant has tied back / secured long hair The Activity Leader must check themselves for the above as well 	Low
Fall from height	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief the participants on the correct way to access the platform Anyone operating at height must be suitably attached to a safety line. 	
Activity Leader double unclip (falling)	Activity Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You must use the system as trained and negotiate the course in a controlled and safe manner. To enable the Activity Leader to negotiate the course and bypass participants a fall arrest lanyard system is used 	
Panic & refusal / inability descend	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Activity Leader must be trained and assessed to carry out a "passive procedure" and lower participants to the ground where needed. Where possible, stuck participants should be assisted back to a platform. Where an individual is unable to be lowered to the ground the Activity Leader must execute the "Active Rescue" as trained. The second Activity Leader must control the rest of the group and maintain communication with the rescuer throughout the process. 	Low