

## Abseiling – High Ashurst

Activity	Hazard type	Who may be harmed	Is the risk adequately controlled
General Hazards. Please see site specific General Risk Assessment	All hazards	All Participants and Staff	Site specific trained and assessed Surrey Outdoor learning and Development (S.O.L.D.) Instructors only. Staff must follow operational procedures of activity sessions. Participants are briefed in the use of all equipment prior to the session and instructors oversee all sessions. All equipment checked and maintained according to manufacturer's guidelines. Only one participant per instructor is allowed onto the abseiling tower. See 'general' risk assessment for S.O.L.D. centre
Human	Falling from abseiling wall	All Participants and Instructors	Participants trained in the use of equipment and overseen by a qualified S.O.L.D Instructor. Safety rope attached to participant at all times. Instructor must be attached to safety rope /strop whilst on abseiling tower platform. Safety barrier at top of steps to prevent participant from walking up to the edge.
Human	Hair / clothing caught in abseil device	All Participants and Instructors	Instructors must ensure that participants hair / clothing is tied back / tucked out of the way prior to abseil. S.O.L.D. instructors are appropriately trained to deal with emergency rescues.

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Human	Injury from falling equipment / personal possessions	All Participants and Instructors	Anybody entering the abseiling area must wear a helmet. Participants are briefed prior to the session to remove items from their pockets. 'No go' area marked beneath the abseiling landing area
Human	Tripping / slipping on staircase	All Participants and Instructors	Participants are briefed prior to the session to be careful when climbing the steps to the abseil platform. Handrails in place up the staircase. All users must walk down the upper steps backwards - as with using a ladder. Instructors to ensure stairs are free from tree debris prior to session.
Human	Participant abseiling down onto spectator	All Participants and Instructors	Participants are requested to remain in waiting / seating area. There is a 'no go' area at the bottom of the abseil wall and participants are advised of this prior to the beginning of the session.
Human	Rope burn	All Participants and Instructors	Instructors to ensure participants control their speed when abseiling down the wall.
Human	Hitting head on low beam when climbing up to the platform	All Participants and Instructors	Participants are briefed prior to the session to be careful when climbing up to the abseil platform. All participants must wear a helmet. The low beam is covered with rubber.
Environmental	Falling pinecones / tree debris	All Participants and Instructors	S.O.L.D. staff to ensure that all participants / spectators wear helmets at all times.

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Equipment	Failure to put the safety equipment on correctly.	All Participants and Instructors	All staff will be given staff training to spot incorrect wearing of safety equipment, all harnesses will be checked before they are put away each session.
Equipment	Equipment Failure.	All Participants and Instructors	Regular checks on equipment according to manufacturer's guidelines. Log kept of all equipment and regularly maintained.