



Name of activity	Cathedral Quarry Big Abseils		Reference number							
Location of activity	Little Langdale		Ratio for activity			2: 12				
Level of qualification needed to lead	RCI/SPA assessed with site visit with Technical advisor and in-house training and assessment directed by MIC, MIA or IFMGA Mountain Guide									
Level of qualification needed to second	RCI/SPA training with site visit with Technical advisor and in-house training and assessment directed by MIC, MIA or IFMGA Mountain Guide									
This document must be read in conjunction with	Standard Operational Procedures									
Key: L – Likelihood, S – Severity, R – Risk					Risk Score 1- 2 = Low 3- 4 = Medium 5- 6 = High					
Activity Description	Foreseeable Hazard	Who might be harmed and how?	L	S	R	Control measures	L	S	R	
Access walk in adit level tunnels	Uneven tunnel roof and floors	Any member of the group or Instructor hit their head or trip head injury fall cut or bruise bodily injury	2	3	5	PPE/FPE Helmets correctly fitted worn at all times. Group control clear briefing of hazards	1	3	4	
Access and movement in adit tunnels	Running in tunnels	Any member of the group tripping uneven floor falling bodily injury Broken limb	2	3	5	Instructor briefing and group control in dark tunnels no running	1	3	4	



Activity Description	Foreseeable Hazard	Who might be harmed and how?	L	S	R	Control measures	L	S	R
Access adit tunnels and main Cathedral Cavern	Roof collapse or rock fall	Any member of the group straying into unsafe areas significant bodily injury fatality	2	3	5	Briefing prior to entry into Tunnels as indicated by National Trust Dynamic risk assessment on going check yellow paint markers for rock movement or new rock fall at foot of abseil sites or on tunnel floors. Ensure and check PPE/FPE helmets worn at all times	1	3	4
Waiting at bottom of Abseil	Rock fall, branches dead wood, somebody throwing or dropping rocks or equipment	Any group member waiting at the bottom of abseils hit on head or body impact injury potential fatality	2	3	5	Awareness of hazard limit number waiting at bottom of abseil. Stand out of fall line. Do not allow exploring the quarry. Correctly adjusted and fitted helmets worn at all times.	1	3	4
Walking moving around top of quarry edge	Fall slip trip	Any member of the group fall from quarry top edge, potential fatality	2	3	5	All movement around the site to be supervised by an Instructor. No one near the quarry edge unless roped or belayed. Instructor observation and vigilance	1	3	4



Activity Description	Foreseeable Hazard	Who might be harmed and how?	L	S	R	Control measures	L	S	R
Walking movement anywhere in the quarry area	Slip on polished slippery or wet sharp edged slate	Any member of the group or Instructor trip slip bruise or twisted ankle soft tissue injury or cut dew sharp edged slate	2	3	5	Site familiarization local knowledge group management correct foot wear checked care when wet or icy	1	3	4
Abseiler	Anchor failure	A group member abseiling, safety rope anchor or abseil rope anchor failure falling to bottom of quarry fatality	2	3	5	Trained qualified NGB assessed staff. Back up and redundancy anchor systems. PPE FPE equipment regularly checked and inspected	1	3	4
Abseiler	Equipment failure including ropes	Any group member abseiling falling fatality	2	3	5	Equipment used by trained qualified and assessed NGB staff. All PPE/FPE regularly checked inspected by suitably qualified staff	1	3	4
Abseiler	Abseiler lets go of their control rope completely	Any member of the group abseiling possible psychological harm panic	2	3	5	Independent safety rope operated and controlled at all times by Instructor	1	3	4
Abseiler	Abseilers descender becomes jammed	Abseiler jammed clothing hair fingers or helmet strap, pain, burn, trapped skin, stress panic. Figure of eight catching and locking incorrectly feed on the rope	2	3	5	Instructor ensures rigging system includes releasable abseil. Check of clothing and straps and figure of eight descender is correctly threaded on rope	1	2	3



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Abseiler comes detached from the safety system	Abseiler Falls	Any abseiler, rope ,knots or karabiner linkage failure, harness failure or human error	2	3	5	Qualified trained and assessed NGB staff. Double check process use the operational procedures	1	3	4
Abseiler	Abseiler descends to quickly , burns hand, let's go control rope	Any abseiler descending to quickly. Burns to hand	2	3	5	Instructor brief best practice. Both hands can be applied to control rope to increase friction glove should be warn for long abseils. Instructor should ensure with the safety rope that student does not descend to quickly.	1	3	4
Abseiler	Swing or pendulum	Abseiler not descending the fall line incorrect body position swings and impacts body or shoulder on rock	2	3	5	Observation and best practice by Instructor keep student on the fall line and ensure correct body position	1	2	3
Abseiler	Abseiler inverts falls out of harness	Abseiler particularly with larger upper body torso inverts possibly getting over the edge starting abseil falls out of harness. Fatality	2	3	5	Instructor considers physic of student and considers use of chest harness or full body harness for very small no hipped children. Use best practice methods to get students over difficult start edges	1	3	4



Activity Risk Assessment – Cathedral Quarry Big Abseils



National Centre, Lakeside

YMCA National Centre, Lakeside Newby Bridge
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Activity Description	Foreseeable Hazard	Who might be harmed and how?	L	S	R	Control measures	L	S	R
Whole group	Other group users	Any member of the group being injured by other users of the quarry throwing things knocking or dropping things distracting behaviour	2	2	4	Instructor awareness of hazard. Brief group to keep away from other groups and potential hazard of others above them	1	2	3
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