

Section 1

**Project or location**

*Great Leaps Adventure-Buckmore Park*

**Details of work & area** (specify people, equipment, materials, substances, frequency & conditions)

The activities included within this risk assessment are:

*Caving*

Participants partake in Caving, as part of their enrichment, education provision or therapeutic engagement. This activity will take place at appropriate times which link to the participants' main experience aim.

All Participants are supervised throughout.

**Department (or business) supervising the work**

Great Leaps Adventure

**Now complete Section 2 (next page) – Use the tables below to assess the risks**

Likelihood of Harm	L	Probable Severity	S	Risk Rating R (LxS)	
				Risk Rating	Level
Very unlikely	1	Trivial Injury	1	1 to 6	LOW
Unlikely	2	Minor Injury	2		
50/50 Likelihood	3	Moderate Injury	3	7 to 14	MEDIUM
Likely	4	Major Injury	4		
Very Likely	5	Fatality	5	15 to 25	HIGH

  

Likelihood of Harm (L)	Probable Severity (S)				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	2	3	4	5
2	2	4	6	8	10
3	3	6	9	12	15
4	4	8	12	16	20
5	5	10	15	20	25

**People at risk**

*Participants/staff/members of the public. All have completed a medical/physical activity readiness questionnaire prior to commencement of their activity.*

**Comments**

*These activities are part of an identified activity/experience requested by an external party and provided by Great Leaps Adventur.*

*The activity content and all the various physical abilities for the group have been considered and it is deemed a medium risk activity.*

Date for re-assessment or review (default to 12 months from date below): 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Risk Assessor: Graeme Pryke

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Section 2

Hazards & Dangers	Possible Harm	Control Measures in Place	LH	PS	RR	Further Action
Injury cause by: - Material falling from above - Person falling from above - Falling/slipping while climbing - Poor route choice - Equipment failure - Exhaustion - Inadequate clothing/footwear - - Becoming stuck - Falling	Instructor and group  Cuts, bumps, bruises and breaks  Panic attacks  Cold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Groups told not to throw items while around drops or entrances.</li> <li>• Cave Leaders are to keep up to date and monitor the cave systems that are regularly used and avoid areas that contain or are likely to contain loose parts and manage loose parts with an appropriate solution.</li> <li>• The leader should be at the front for the descent and at the back for the ascent.</li> <li>• Ensure the route is appropriate for all group members and that there is a way round if there is a challenge involved.</li> <li>• Long/cold trips can affect people in different ways, so the leader must regularly check the group to ensure they are coping .</li> <li>• Make sure the groups are dressed for the conditions in the cave, whether that is wearing a boiler suit and wellies for most normal dry trips or wearing over suits and fleeces for wet / long trips.</li> <li>• All anchors, whether natural or man-made, must be checked before use</li> <li>• Double check all knots and karabiners are secure when being used</li> <li>• Hand-lines, or assisted hand-lines, should be used where climbs are particularly slippery.</li> <li>• Caving belts must be worn properly to provide an attachment point in case of emergency and also as a secure handhold to assist clients, warn them when you are going to grab belt. Caving belts, helmets and lights must be checked for correct fitting and fully functional before use. (Not Always Required at GLAE).</li> <li>• Instructors should be aware of the risks of confined space gases.</li> <li>• Call out times must be left when caving with the office, instructors must report in to the office when no other groups are present at the site after leaving the site.</li> <li>• Ensure group members are appropriately briefed when attempting a challenging/tight section of cave to ensure the client can successfully complete that section. If they are physically too big for the challenge then the client must be dissuaded from the challenge to avoid becoming stuck and potentially injured.</li> <li>• Immediate access to a first aid kit by an instructor at all times Mobile phone is required to be taken to the site of activity by the Instructor.</li> </ul>	1	4	Low	

## Section 2

Hazards & Dangers	Possible Harm	Control Measures in Place	LH	PS	RR	Further Action
Becoming lost Group members exploring on their own	Group	Ensure all group members know to stay together and understand the importance of it.	2	1	Low	
Jewellery/clothing becoming caught	Individual/Group hold up and entrapment that may cause panic causing cuts, bumps, bruises and breaks	Tuck away long hair or dangling straps and remove or tape over any jewellery	2	2	Low	
Spiders	Panic movement causing cuts, bumps, bruises and breaks	Inform group members to leave the spiders alone. Brief on the areas that they may encounter spiders.	2	1	Low	

**CHILD PROTECTION**

Our policy is consistent with current good practice in this area and meets current statutory requirements. Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are carried out on all staff.

**SUPERVISION WHEN NOT ON ACTIVITIES**

This is the responsibility of the group leader.

**EQUIPMENT**

All Specialist equipment is provided.

All equipment provided will be fit for purpose and is inspected. Records of equipment checks are available for inspection on site.