

Activity	Who could be affected?	Hazard	Risk (low, medium, high)	Actions already taken to reduce risk	Further actions recommended/comments
Tree Climbing	Students, staff and visitors	Injury	Medium-High	Students are supervised 1-to-1 by a mentor at all times whilst climbing trees. Students are not permitted to climb beyond the marked point or beyond the reach of the mentor supervising them. Should students fall from a height, then likely injuries are concussion, fractures, bruising, spinal injuries, cuts and grazes depending on the height. Fall zones are kept clear of debris, raised roots and large stones. Trees are not to be climbed in adverse weather conditions including but not limited to strong winds and heavy rain.	Tree climbing is covered by our insurance as a forest school provider.
		Tree condition	Medium	Trees are visually assessed for condition prior to students accessing the tree for climbing	Tree survey carried out June 2022
		Fall Zone	Medium-High	The fall zones around the trees will influence their selection as a tree suitable to be climbed. Where possible, raised tree roots, excess debris, large stones and rocks will be cleared from the fall zone. Trees will have a fall zone 2.5-3m in circumference of the tree trunk.	Additional substrate such as play safe wood chip may be required in fall zones to provide extra protection
		Climbing Height	Medium-High	Students should not climb beyond the reach of their mentor. This is explained to students prior to the	

			activity. Students who do not follow this instruction will not be permitted to climb trees again. Maximum climbing height is clearly marked or pointed out on each tree.	
	Physical limitations	Low-High	Student's physical limitations will be assessed before they are allowed to undertake tree climbing as an activity. They must be assessed as having the appropriate body strength to securely ascend and descend the tree. Supervising staff must also possess adequate strength to hold and reach the student whilst they are up the tree.	
	Proximity to water	Medium	Trees near the ponds and river are not to be climbed due to the risk of the student falling from height into water.	

Signed: *Alasdair Green* (Education Manager)

Name: Alasdair Green

Date: 29/9/25

Review date: September 2026