

Safety Guidelines

for education outside the class room

Information



fear in here!

Vertigo Climbing Centre Risk Management

The following information is a summarised version of the Vertigo climbing Centre Procedures Manual and Policies. It assists educators in their preparation of their Risk Management Plans. All information should be treated as confidential. Additional information can be obtained by calling 'The Manager' on 0274 993 698.

External Provider Details

Provider Name: Ruapehu Rocks Limited trading as Vertigo Climbing

Provider Site Address: 27 Goldfinch Street Ohakune 4625

Phone Number: 020 4160 5348

Contact Person: Jeremy Hamer

Provider Commenced Trading In: 2022

Provider Public Liability Insurance Details

Underwriter: available on request

Policy Number: available on request

Policy Limit: \$2,000,000

Policy Expiry Date: available on request

Risk Management Details

Rock climbing, indoor or outdoor, is an inherently risky activity. At Vertigo Climbing Centre, we minimise the risk (where it cannot be eliminated) by implementing the following procedures, policies and checks. • All climbing walls are designed, built and then tested to meet EN 12572 (European) Standard for Artificial Climbing Structures.

- All equipment is regularly inspected, logged and replaced as required. At any point in time, these logs are available for inspection/review by education teachers.

Clip 'N Climb

- Vertigo Climbing Centre uses an auto belay system that eliminates the need for a person to belay. The auto belay device is rated up to 150kg and meets the Australian, New Zealand and European standard. Our Trublues are tested annually.
- Vertigo Climbing Centre has a private room for students to fit the harnesses with no distractions, then they are double checked by our instructors before leaving the room.

Real Roc climbing wall / Top Rope

- Vertigo Climbing Centre uses a Petzl Gri Gri ® belay device to reduce the possibility of a belayer losing control of the top rope belay.
- Vertigo Climbing Centre use a "pre-doubled back" buckle to ensure participants do not forget to double back their harness buckle.

We have attached to this document a complete RAMs form for you to submit with your activity documentation – simply add your detail and dates.

Staff

At Vertigo Climbing Centre Senior Staff are required to have Workplace First aid Qualifications (or equivalent or greater). Given our staff know our facility, including emergency exits, fire fighting equipment locations, emergency assembly areas, telephone locations and evacuation procedures, we prefer that our staff act as the **RESPONSIBLE Emergency Response Coordinator** for any activity on our premises.

Risk Assessment:
for Top Rope and Lead Climbing at Vertigo Climbing Centre



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No fear in here!

In addition to their First Aid qualifications, we undertake the following comprehensive training with all staff, including regular updates:

- Fire fighting equipment use
- Emergency & Evacuation Procedures
- Rescue Procedures and Incident Response
- Group Management

Teachers attending with the group are welcome to bring their own first aid kits, but we do have the following equipment on site:

- Portable Sports First Aid Kit
- Rope Rescue Kit

Vertigo Climbing Centre complies with the Occupational Health & Safety Act in New Zealand. An Emergency Evacuation Plan (map) of the entire complex is available upon request. Our full Emergency Evacuation Procedure is detailed in our procedures manual and is available for review upon request, but it is not distributed publicly.

All instructors are on 'staff', not sub-contractors, and all have been through intensive in-house training and are not permitted to take school group sessions until we are satisfied with their competence. As a minimum, all our instructors will be able to:

- Fit all necessary equipment
- Manage the group of students
- Provide all necessary training in the use of the equipment
- Supervise all participants in safe use of equipment

All Vertigo Climbing Centre staff are employed on the basis that they have relevant experience or qualifications in the field of indoor climbing.

Role of Teacher(s): Although our instructors will provide all technical instruction and training, the role of the attending teacher(s) is to assist with the direct supervision and disciplining of the students.

Instructor Ratios

Clip 'N Climb:

Year 8 – 12 students our Ratio 1:20 Effective Ratio = 1:10 including supervising teacher. Up to Year 7 Students our Ratio is 1:10 Effective Ratio = 1:5 depending on the number of teachers.

Top Rope:

Year 8 – 12 students our Ratio 1:10 Effective Ratio = 1:5 including supervising teacher (5 ropes in use at one time per instructor).

Up to Year 7 Students our Ratio is no belaying for children under 13 permitted at Vertigo Climbing Centre.

Students attending Vertigo Climbing Centre should wear the standard school sports uniform as attire, if there is no official school sports uniform, tracksuits, shorts and t-shirts are appropriate and "runners" are appropriate footwear.

Items that should not be worn:

- Denim jeans
- Skirts or dresses
- Overly baggy pants
- Excessive jewellery
- School ties, belts, school shoes

Students should not bring iPods, phones or MP3 players as they pose a hazard during the activity and we accept no responsibility for damage or loss of the said equipment.

School/Organisation

Name:

Group

Leader:

Date:

Reviewed on:

RISKS What could go wrong?	HAZARDS Why would this happen?	SIGNIFICANT? Yes / No	CONTROLS How we can prevent it?
Injury to climber following a fall from the wall	Faulty equipment: ropes, belay devices, anchors, etc	Yes	The Vertigo Climbing Centre policies for equipment selection, inspection and retirement include: - Equipment selection is aligned to industry practices and manufacturers recommendations for us. Regular inspections of equipment, checks it remains in safe working condition. - Equipment is retired when it is no longer in safe working condition. Guidelines for retirement take into consideration industry practices and manufacturers recommendations. - Gear storage is aligned to manufacturers recommendations. - The staff completing gear inspections have the necessary skills and training to perform the task. All personal gear used at the Vertigo Climbing Centre must meet industry standards (eg: UIAA, EN)

	Inadequate skills of the climber, e.g. - Harness not done up - Not tied or clipped in correctly	Yes	All climbers at the Vertigo Climbing Centre complete an assessment of their ability to climb safely. Climbers are advised to only climb in the manner to which they have been assessed eg: top roping, lead climbing or with Trublue auto belays. The Safety Supervisor's responsibilities include: - The ongoing checks of a climbers skills - Advising climbers of poor or unsafe practise - As necessary, making changes to a climbers record of competency.	Injury from being hit by a falling climber	Poor communication	No	All belayers and climbers at the Vertigo Climbing Centre are assessed on their ability to climb safely including their ability to communicate effectively. The Vertigo Climbing Centre rules identify the risks of a climber falling into other climbers or belayers.
	Inadequate skills of the belayer	Yes	All belayers at the Vertigo Climbing Centre are assessed on their competency to belay safely. The Safety Supervisor's responsibilities include: - The ongoing checks of a climbers skills - Advising climbers of poor or unsafe practise - As necessary, making changes to a climbers record of competency.		Low skills level	No	The Vertigo Climbing Centre 'Route Board' identifies the approximate difficulty of the climb.
	Belayer or climber is distracted from task	Yes	The Safety Supervisor's responsibilities include the management of undesirable behaviour or excessive noise in the climbing area. The Vertigo Climbing Centre rules advises climbers and belayers to remain attentive to the needs of each other and to avoid creating excessive noise. Parental supervision is required for youth under 15 years.		Poor route setting	No	The Vertigo Climbing Centre route setters consider the potential risks associated with a falling climber and design routes accordingly.
				Injury from gear being dropped by climber	Low skill level of climber	No	All climbers at the Vertigo Climbing Centre are assessed on their competency to climb safely. The route board identifies the approximate difficulty of the climbs.
					Inadequate skills and /or knowledge of climbers	No	All climbers at the Vertigo Climbing Centre are assessed on their competency to climb safely. In the Vertigo Climbing Centre, climbers are advised not to put fingers through the bolts.
					Poor or inadequate instruction of skills	No	The Vertigo Climbing Centre instructors have the necessary skills and experience to supervise climbers.
					Inadequate supervision	No	The Safety Supervisor's role includes the ongoing assessment of climber's safe practices. The Vertigo Climbing Centre 'Ratio Procedures' establish appropriate guidelines for the numbers of staff to clients.

RISKS What could go wrong?	HAZARDS Why would this happen?	SIGNIFICANT? Yes / No	CONTROLS How we can prevent it?
	Poor fit of climbers harness	Yes	A variety of harness sizes are available. The Vertigo Climbing Centre staff are skilled in the selection of and fitting of harnesses for climbers. The Vertigo Climbing Centre staff are aware of situations where the use of a chest harness may be warranted. The Vertigo Climbing Centre climber and belayer 'Skills Checks' include an assessment of their ability to fit a harness.
	Poor climber/belayer communication	Yes	The Vertigo Climbing Centre Climber and belayer 'Skills Checks' includes an assessment of their ability to communicate effectively.
	Inadequate supervision	Yes	A Safety Supervisor is always 'onsite' when climbing is being undertaken. The Vertigo Climbing Centre 'Ratio Procedures' establish guidelines for the number of staff to clients.
	Poor or inadequate instruction of skills	Yes	Inexperienced climbers are taught by adequately skilled instructors. All instructors at the Vertigo Climbing Centre are familiar with 'Instruction Course Outcomes' and the Vertigo Climbing Centre standard practise for climbing and belaying.

RISKS What could go wrong?	HAZARDS Why would this happen?	SIGNIFICANT? Yes / No	CONTROLS How we can prevent it?
Sprains/strains	Poor match of climbers ability and difficulty of a climb	No	The Vertigo Climbing Centre 'Route Board' identifies the approximate difficulty of the climbs.
	Climbers do not warm up adequately	No	The Vertigo Climbing Centre includes advice on warming up.
Injury from skin/finger jamming in belay device	Low skill level of belayer	No	All belayers at the Vertigo Climbing Centre are assessed on their ability to belay safely.
	Inadequate supervision	No	The Safety Supervisor's role includes the ongoing assessment of belayers safe practices. The Vertigo Climbing Centre 'Ratio Procedure' establish appropriate guidelines for the numbers of staff to clients.

Injury – generic	Staff are overly familiar with risks	Yes	The Vertigo Climbing Centre culture encourages staff to maintain an awareness of safety and report new hazards, safety concerns and incidents. The Vertigo Climbing Centre management communicates to all staff any new hazards and the outcomes of incident reviews.
	Repetitive nature of work resulting in boredom	Yes	Training of staff includes their development of systematic checking procedures, eg: checking of harness, karabiners.
Emotional trauma	A poor process exists for introducing beginner climbers	No	Beginner climbers are instructed in Top Rope climbing skills. Climbers new to the Vertigo Climbing Centre are provided with a 'Vertigo Climbing Centre' tour.

	Staff have a poor ability to communicate effectively to a variety of clients	No	The Vertigo Climbing Centre Safety Supervisors and reception staff have an ability to relate well and communicate with a variety of clients. The Vertigo Climbing Centre culture encourages a welcoming environment for climbers of all abilities.
	Climbs not established for varied skill level	No	Routes setters have skills and experience to develop routes for varied skill level of clients. Manager of wall establishes requirements for routes of varied difficult and climbing style.

Risk Assessment: for Clip 'N

Climb at Vertigo Climbing Centre

OHAKUNE

School/Organisation Name:

_____ Risk

Assessment

Group Leader: _____ Date: _____

Reviewed on: _____

