



Risk Benefit Assessment: Climbing and Off the ground activities	Venue: Kinder Croft CIC Outdoor Nursery Location: Leckmelm Woods, Ullapool, Ross-shire, IV23 2RH GR: NH 157 916	Assessor: <i>Joni Mackay</i> Date: <i>September 2025</i> Date of Review: <i>September 2026</i>
Description of activity and area assessed: Climbing of trees with participants (adults and children) Climbing of obstacles such as logs, boulders, walls, fences, gates, shrubs etc		
Nearest Emergency phone: KC mobile on site: 07704663486	Nearest Doctors: Ullapool - 01854 612015 Hospital: Raigmore, Inverness - 01463 704000 Ambulance: 999	
Persons at Risk: Staff and Children	Personal Protective Equipment Needed:	
Benefits of experience/activity: SPICES Social – Turn taking, peer support, collaboration, sharing space. Physical – Fine and gross motor skills, spatial awareness, active, using various muscle groups, improved awareness of physical abilities.		

Intellectual – Decision making, risk assessment, planning and problem solving, thinking skills. Close examination of trees, bark, insects and animals living in trees.

Communication – Discussion, decision making.

Emotional – Increased self esteem and confidence. Excitement, fear and achievement. Resilience.

Spiritual – Different perspective on the world, feeling of community for those that have climbed. Concentration and mindfulness. Appreciation for natural world and what trees provide for us.

Hazards	Risk	Evaluation	Control action	Final evaluation
Climbing on trees or other equipment	Falling from height under 1.5m	4	Safety brief given where required and participants asked to climb only to their comfort level and they must be able to climb up without assistance.	2
	Falling from height over 1.5m	6	Less able participants monitored more closely.	2
	Injury from others climbing in the same area - standing on fingers or head	2	<p>Direct instruction given to less experienced climbers - reminders of choosing strong and sturdy climbing features.</p> <p>Ensure holding on with hands and feet.</p> <p>Maximum height of climbing is 5m for all individuals.</p> <p>Participants encouraged to risk assess and identify safe places for climbing.</p> <p>Ensure the ground underneath a climbing area is free from hazards such as stones and sharp sticks or other objects.</p>	1

Hazards	Risk	Evaluation	Control action	Final evaluation
			<p>Areas of concern must be discussed with participants and not be used.</p> <p>Climbers encouraged to look around them and be aware of where others are climbing to minimise collision.</p>	

		Severity/Consequence		
		Slightly harmful (1)	Harmful (2)	Extremely harmful (3)
Likelihood	Highly unlikely (1)	Trivial risk (Score 1)	Tolerable risk (Score 2)	Moderate risk (Score 3)
	Unlikely (2)	Tolerable risk (Score 2)	Moderate risk (Score 4)	Substantial risk (Score 6)
	Likely (3)	Moderate risk (Score 3)	Substantial risk (Score 6)	Intolerable risk (Score 9)