

GORGE WALKING



Date of Assessment 01.03.11

	Casual factors, hazards, dangers	Risk management strategies, normal operation.	Site Specifics
People	Overestimate of ability Inadequate training / instruction Safety / rescue procedures.	Assess ability from questioning. Provide adequate training/ instruction for each section of the climb. Instructors trained in medical / rescue techniques.	This space is to be completed on the day of the activity, identifying any specific dangers, changes since the last visit and/or difficulties/risks that will need to be assessed before, during and after the session.
	Group control (anxiety/excitement).	Instructor trained and experienced in group management.	
	Awareness of risks: Non-swimmer, fear of water, fear of heights	Identify phobias, illnesses, injuries, and ability (inc. non/weak swimmers) using Personal Details Form and questioning.	
Equipment	Poor head protection	Helmet correctly fitted and worn at all times. Equipment checked before the activity, as being used and after use.	
	Clothing insufficient, inappropriate or incorrectly used	Correct clothing worn and any personal kit checked to make sure it's suitable and safe for use. Kit List sent prior to activity.	
	Inadequate footwear	Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times. Kit list provided prior to activity.	
	Buoyancy aids failing	Buoyancy aids fitted to each individual, and checked before and after use by an instructor. Any personal kit checked to make sure it is suitable and safe for the activity.	

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Environment	Weather conditions	Weather checked by instructors prior to activity. Ensure clients have appropriate clothing for activity and spare clothing to change into following the activity.	
	Water temperature Water volume	Match group capability to water volume. Assist weaker members from gorge. Use fixed line for difficult sections. Carry emergency equipment for issues relating to water (hypothermia, drowning etc.).	
	Sharp objects [river bed boulders etc] causing injury	Instructors familiar with venue and danger points. Instructor trained in first aid and water rescue techniques. Emergency equipment and first aid carried throughout activity.	
	Non-exit areas causing panic. Not using correct exit from gorge.	Instructors familiar with venue and variety of exit points. Instructor trained in first aid and water rescue techniques. Emergency equipment and first aid carried throughout activity.	