



Risk Assessments

Caving

Contained in the following pages are the risk assessments for Dukes Barn Caving.

These risk assessments have been carried out by the staff of Dukes Barn taking into account any entries to our accident / near miss report folder.

These risk assessments are Reviewed periodically

Reviewed periodically

Caving

Benefit Statement		<p>Introductory caving sessions may be held in natural caves, disused mines or caves that have been partly mined The nature of the activity and the choice of venue will be based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The physical needs of the clients • The clients' previous experience • The educational aims of the session <p>It provides an opportunity to explore this unique underground environment; additionally, many people overcome personal fears with support and encouragement from the rest of their group.</p>		
What are the hazards?	Who affected and Risk	What we are already doing / control measures	Further action required	Action required Responsibility/dates due and completed
General	Staff and participants - Various injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitably qualified & experienced instructor (includes First Aid). Clear briefings & supervision. All accidents, near misses and incidents, are recorded, and appropriate action is undertaken as required. Seek & share information with similar providers and organisations (PICA) • Participants were asked to share relevant previous & existing medical issues. Visiting group leaders asked about any other (e.g. behavioural) issues. Staff ratios (group size) amended as required • There will be a dynamic risk assessment carried out before and during every session. 	No further action at this time	
Exposure to cold	Staff and participants - Hypothermia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venue and level of the trip should be appropriate to the group All participants must be equipped with special protective clothing suitable for the conditions. Ensure participants have suitable & adequate clothing Depending on the nature of the trip - warm drinks / spare clothing will be taken in addition to the cave safety pack. Minibus to be on site 	No further action at this time	
Equipment failure	Staff and participants - Various injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All equipment checked before use. • Correctly fitted helmets and lamps Regular checks, maintenance & renewal Equipment to correspond to required standards, personal protective equipment checked for correct fitting & monitored throughout the activity. 	No further action at this time	

Caving

Fall from height	Staff and participants - Death	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any ascent/descent routes within the cave or routes involving being at height will be protected and managed by the qualified instructor using spotting or use of ropes. 	No further action at this time	
Flooding	Staff and participants - Drowning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualified Instructor on activity to have specific sites on their cave leader qualification and good knowledge of how cave reacts in adverse weather conditions. Instructor to assess the weather conditions (Proceeding, current and forecast) and should weather conditions indicate the likelihood of flooding, a venue less affected by the weather should be used. 	No further action at this time	
Uneven ground	Staff and participants - tripping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor to brief the group on the hazards associated with the venue. 	No further action at this time	
Lose rock, bad air	Staff and participants - Serious injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venues used approved by Local Cave Leader Training Panel and monitored by PICA (Peak Instructed Cave Affiliation). Any new hazard spotted will be immediately reported to PICA, and use of the venue will be suspended if necessary. 	No further action at this time	
Mine hazards, e.g. 'miner's deads' (loose rocks), shafts in the floor, unstable ground	Staff and participants - Serious injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venues used approved by Local Cave Leader Training Panel and monitored by PICA (Peak Instructed Cave Affiliation). PICA regularly inspects mine venues to check on the stability and safety of approved routes. Any new hazard spotted will be immediately reported to PICA, and use of the venue will be suspended if necessary. 	No further action at this time	

Introductory Caving

Operating procedures

Instructor requirements:

- Current First Aid, LCMLA level 1 Mine and LCMLA Level 1 Cave / appropriate in-house training (Cave only)

Key briefing points:

All participants should be wearing appropriate clothing for the trip planned; caving over suits or waterproofs will be provided. Wellington boots are appropriate footwear; the instructor should advise all participants to wear long socks.

The instructor should always carry a first aid kit and spare lighting. Additional safety equipment, including an emergency shelter, sleeping bag and hot drinks, may be taken if necessary.

Each participant must wear a correctly fitting caving helmet and light.

The group should be appropriately briefed before the session. The importance of staying together, helping each other and additional hazards, including road traffic (especially when visiting Mouldridge Mine), loose rock and water, should be highlighted.

The instructor should always be in a suitable position to supervise the whole group. All equipment used should meet UIAA/CEN specifications and /or be suitable for their purpose.

Instructors should inspect all equipment at the start of any session and remove any item they are not happy with for inspection by the Head of the Centre.

All instructors must keep up to date concerning hazards and access through reference to DCA (Derbyshire Caving Association) and PICA (Peak Instructed Caving Association)

Caving with Pitches

Operating procedures

Instructor requirements:

Current First Aid, Relevant NGB awards for the activity and or site-specific trained with relevant experience

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Key briefing points:

All participants should be wearing appropriate clothing for the trip planned; caving over suits or waterproofs will be provided. Wellington boots are appropriate footwear; the instructor should advise all participants to wear long socks.

The instructor should always carry a first aid kit and spare lighting. Additional safety equipment, including an emergency shelter, sleeping bag and hot drinks, may be taken if necessary.

Each participant must wear a correctly fitting caving helmet, light, harness or belt, and leg loops.

The group should be appropriately briefed before the session. The importance of staying together, helping each other and additional hazards including traffic, loose rock, water and other users should be highlighted.

The instructor should always be in a suitable position to supervise the whole group. All equipment used should meet UIAA/CEN specifications and /or should be suitable for their purpose.

Instructors should inspect all equipment at the start of any session and remove any item they are not happy with for inspection by the Head of the Centre.