

Activity Risk Assessment: - Caving

Carlton Lodge recognises that using a suitably trained / qualified instructor will vastly reduce the inherent risks of the activity. Therefore all Carlton Lodge Activities will be led by suitably trained / qualified instructors.

No	Hazard	Who it effects	Unmanaged Risk	Control Measures	Managed Risk
1	Falling/injury	Instructors & Group	High	Brief group on underground hazards and offer assistance. Tailor trip to group's ability. Use of ropes when appropriate. Students to follow set route as set by instructor. Ensure spotting techniques are used when necessary.	Medium
2	Flooding	Instructors & Group	High	Follow advice on water levels contained in operating procedures.	Low
3	Panic attack	Group	Medium	Knowledge of student's abilities and appropriate route selection. Knowledge of exits stopping points.	Low
4	Radon gas	Instructors & Group	Low	Levels to be advised by technical advisor. Do not enter cave if levels are unsafe.	Low
5	Getting lost	Instructors & Group	High	Before leaving the minibus the group should be briefed not to wander off on their own. Highlight the dangers of the location. Instructor should ensure they are aware of how many participants they have and carry out regular head counts.	Low
6	Banging Head	Instructors & Group	High	Instructors and group members must wear a correctly fitted helmet throughout the activity.	Low
7	Light Failure	Instructors & Group	Medium	Spare torches to be carried in group bag.	Low
8	Getting stuck	Instructors & Group	Medium	Instructors should only attempt routes, which have been tried and tested during training sessions. Instructor to advise individuals on their ability to fit through the gaps. If necessary miss out sections of the route to accommodate the group.	Low
9	Hypo/hyperthermia & exposure	Instructors & Group	Medium	Instructors should ensure that the group is appropriately clothed for the weather. (e.g. Waterproofs, hat, gloves, warm clothes, sun-lotion etc.) Instructors should ensure that group is appropriately hydrated and monitor the state of all individuals within the group. Instructors should be prepared to stop or have a break during the session. Group needs safety bag readily available. Instructor to ensure this.	Low

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10	Group separation	Instructors & Group	Medium	Brief group to stay together Instructors to remain vigilant and keep good control of the group. Place one instructor at front and one at the back, whenever necessary to facilitate good group management.	Low
11	Debris and dead animals.	Instructors & Group	Medium	Avoid areas that are prone to collecting debris, particularly after high water levels.	Low