

Risk Assessment Activity – General Activities (COVID -19)

Pioneer Centre	Assessed by: James Kniffen	Assessed:	Next Review Date
		04/10/2021	When appropriate e.g. new guidelines are issued or situation on site requires a review
<p>Overview: During the COVID-19 pandemic Pioneer’s activities have had to be modified to accommodate government guidelines, including increased cleaning, hand sanitising and adequate ventilation. Some activities have been further modified and some may have been temporarily closed.</p> <p>Currently the following activities are suspended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor Caving <p>Indoor sessions that have been adapted to have adequate ventilation and spacing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inflatable challenge – one school in at a time • Archery – doors and window opened for sessions • Fencing – to only be used by one group (during a week period) at a time and cleaning of equipment to be done after a session and before the next groups use (following week). • Disco – can be done outside. If done inside, then windows and doors will be opened to provide good airflow/ventilation. Other venues that are large may be used if it is a larger group to again help provide space and good ventilation. <p>Studies and research suggest that the outdoors setting seems to be at a much lower risk for transmission of Covid 19 than indoors. Sunlight and open-air spaces seem to be the key to low transmission rates which is the main context for activity delivery. See following sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/explainers-55680305 • https://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099(20)30561-2/fulltext#%20 • https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33307081/ • https://academic.oup.com/jid/article/222/2/214/5841129 <p>All activities will be modified to comply, wherever possible, to social distancing between activity staff and groups and other safeguards which will be laid out in the operating procedures. The risk assessment sees two main groups for activities onsite: schools and non-schools (all other groups).</p> <p>The overall strategy to prevent COVID-19 infection and spread on the centre activities’ programs are as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not to do any of the indoor sessions except if proper space and ventilation is in place. • Groups and staff will be monitored and if any of the defined covid symptoms start at any point during the program the person will be isolated and sent home. 			

- Modify session to use social distancing between staff and groups - meeting points will be outside and clearly marked in order to help prevent mixing of schools. Social distancing between staff and group will be maintained wherever possible. When activity areas overlap and there are different groups using these activities then waiting points will be put in place to ensure enough space between the groups.
- Hand sanitizer will be used on sessions at the beginning during and end of the sessions.
- Equipment such as harnesses and helmets will be issued to the participants and used for the durations of their stay where possible. Equipment after a group has finished their program will either be quarantined for 72hrs or disinfected before another group can use it, where a risk of cross contamination is deemed unacceptable.
- Staff delivering sessions have the option to wear PPE (mask) and are encouraged if working in close proximity to wear a mask and use hand sanitizer before and after physical interaction e.g. adjusting harnesses and helmets.
- Groups are asked to be patient with all safety measures or program adaptations as they are necessary to ensure everyone's continued safety.
- The centre reserves the right, where safety concerns exist, to reduce group size, session times, activity provision or type, and to use temperature checks, or other PPE to further reduce cross contamination. Any adaptations will be communicated when alteration is decided.
- Safety of delivery of any activity session, both of staff and guests, remains the top priority.

Overall, the effective reduction in cross-contamination is down to not attending the centre with covid19 and isolating when having been in close proximity to anyone infected. It is therefore impossible to reduce the risk of transmission to zero, and the centre provides no guarantee regarding infection of covid19 virus and remains the participants choice to do attend site of their own volition.

Hazards	Groups of People at Risk from the Hazards Identified	Probability	Severity	Risk Category	Control Measures
Spreading of Covid-19 by incoming groups	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	Major	Medium	<p>Modifying of activities to ensure delivered outdoors or with adequate ventilation. PPE is available for staff if desired. Staff are to keep their distance wherever possible and practical.</p> <p>Regular times for handwashing/hand sanitizer at the beginning and end of session as well as before starting and touching an activity e.g. starting up a climb. Staff to remind participants.</p> <p>Equipment such as helmets and harnesses are issued for each</p>

participant for the duration of their program where possible. It is expected that equipment will not be shared where a concern for contamination. This will have been disinfected or gone through the 72hr quarantine period before hand.

Indoor Activities will have good ventilation / air flow.

Meeting points will be outside and clearly marked in order to help prevent mixing of groups. When activity areas overlap and there are different groups using these activities then waiting points will be put in place to provide good space between groups.

Spreading of Covid-19 by staff

Instructors, staff and guest/participants

Likely

Major

Medium

Staff to be diligent in washing hands/using hand sanitizer and using only staff facilities.

Staff will report and isolate if have any symptoms of Covid-19.
Staff to be loaned dedicated PPE such as harness/helmets that will be used only by them while working.

Activities staff are provided face mask if desired and hand sanitizer when delivering indoors activities or for when needing to come into close proximity of guests.

Physical contact between staff and participants on activities	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	Medium	Low	<p>For critical checks on harnesses and helmets instructors will need to do a physical check. For this a face mask is available and hand sanitizer.</p> <p>On a rescue scenario where, physical contact may be required both rescuer and participant will immediately after a rescue use hand sanitizer before returning to activities. Most scenarios can be dealt with through verbal means and staff will advise nervous participants not to push too far too fast and to build up toward more challenging aspects such as heights and exposure.</p>
Contact of contaminated surfaces such as equipment and activity elements (physical structures)	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Medium	Low	<p>Staff and participants to use hand sanitizers before and after sessions as well as during the activities.</p> <p>Items/equipment identified as having come into contact with an infected or suspected person will be sanitized and isolated according to strict cleaning measures.</p>
Exposure to disinfectant chemicals (Milton and Isopropanol)	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Major	Medium	<p>Staff to be trained on how to use, refill, and store the disinfect chemicals.</p> <p>Spray bottles to be clearly label and stored in a secure place when not being used on equipment and activity elements.</p>

