

# Risk Assessment Activity – Caving

Pioneer Centre	Assessed by: James Kniffen				Assessed:	Next Review Date
					10/01/2022	09/01/2023
<p><b>Overview:</b> Caving takes place in a man-made wooden tunnel system with three fibre-glass sections within a wooden building. The instructors will have been in-house trained who are leading the session. Preferred Staff to client ratio 1:12 with a maximum of 1:16.</p>						
Hazards	Groups of People at Risk from the Hazards Identified	Probability	Severity	Risk Category	Control Measures	
Slips, trips and falls	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	Minor	Medium	Recorded monthly safety checks, instructor first aid trained, with first aid kit readily available. General group management is provided by activity instructor.	
Fingers trapped under emergency hatches	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Major	Medium	Marked hatches, guests warned of danger and instructed only to bang on hatches and not try and push them open. Hydraulic door closer are in place to prevent hatches closing quickly.	
Abrasions from tunnel walls & ceiling	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	Minor	Low	Recorded monthly safety checks of equipment and caving systems. Participants wear helmets and kneepads.	
Participants getting stuck	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Very unlikely	Medium	Low	Test holes used at start of session. Instructor supervises smaller tunnels and clear instructions are given on proper use. False ceiling can be lifted in	

					smallest tunnels to get stuck participants out.
Falling down open hatches	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Very Unlikely	Major	Low	Safe walkways are clearly marked. Hatches shut during session and a hydraulic door closer are in place to prevent hatches closing quickly. Building locked shut when not in use to prevent unsupervised used.
Fire	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Very Unlikely	Fatal	Low	Fire Alarms are in place along with emergency procedures. Emergency lights in place on the systems if participants do not hear alarms. Staff trained in emergency fire procedures.