



Overstone Scout Campsite & Activity Centre

Overstone Scout Campsite & Activity Centre – Bouldering Wall Risk Assessment (Reviewed 11th March 2026) – This risk assessment covers the general risks that could be experienced when using the Bouldering Wall at Overstone and how those risks are being controlled by the Overstone Management Team. This risk assessments also identifies further controls that groups using the Bouldering Wall should consider or implement.

This RA should be read in conjunction with the Overstone Scout Campsite & Activity Centre – General Risk Assessment.

All users of the Bouldering Wall should use this risk assessment as a reference but must produce their own, based on, but not limited to, the individuals and numbers within their group using the Archery Range. This should include any equipment supplied directly from Overstone or brought in by the Group.

General Comments – The Bouldering Wall is a Traverse wall and is climbed horizontally. The young people are never more than a few feet off the ground as they traverse the wall. No ropes or harnesses are needed. The general safety rules for this activity are printed on a poster board at the entrance to the Bouldering Wall and should form part of the leader safety briefing before starting the activity.

Hazard Identified? / Risks from it?	Who is at risk?	How are the risks already controlled?	What further controls will be implemented to reduce the risk further.
<p>Hazard – Entering and exiting the activity site. Slips, trips or falls.</p> <p>Risk – Injury</p>	All Users	<p>A low wooden fence is maintained around the wall to ensure users only enter and exit at the correct places.</p> <p>The exits and entrance areas are kept clear of debris, undergrowth etc.</p>	<p>The Leader in Charge should write an appropriate RA with respect to using the Bouldering Wall. This Risk Assessment should take into account the Hazards, Risk and Controls that have been identified in the document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All users to be made aware of the hazards before entering the activity area. Users should report any damage and report any concerns they have to feedback.overstone@northamptonscouts.org.uk

<p>Hazard – Striking head on hand / foot holds</p> <p>Risk – Head Injury</p>	<p>All Users</p>	<p>Hand and foot holds are regular checked and, if needed, repaired.</p>	<p>The Leader in Charge should write an appropriate RA with respect to using the Bouldering Wall. This Risk Assessment should take into account the Hazards, Risk and Controls that have been identified in the document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All users to be given clear instruction on how to use the wall and the hazard. • Users should report any damage and report any concerns they have to feedback.overstone@northamptonscouts.org.uk
<p>Hazard –Falling from wall.</p> <p>Risk – Injury</p>	<p>All Users</p>	<p>Hand and foot holds are regular checked and, if needed, repaired.</p>	<p>The Leader in Charge should write an appropriate RA with respect to using the Bouldering Wall. This Risk Assessment should take into account the Hazards, Risk and Controls that have been identified in the document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity leader to check the hand and foot holds before use. Instruct users of any loose or damaged ones. • Leaders inform the Overstone Management Team if any loose or damaged hand / foot holds are found. • Users should report any damage and report any concerns they have to feedback.overstone@northamptonscouts.org.uk
<p>Hazard –Climbing too high and going over the top – falling from 8ft.</p> <p>Risk – Injury</p>	<p>All Users</p>	<p>Maintain the clear, yellow, 1m height line on the wall.</p>	<p>The Leader in Charge should write an appropriate RA with respect to using the Bouldering Wall. This Risk Assessment should take into account the Hazards, Risk and Controls that have been identified in the document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climbers to be supervised at all times. Clear instructions that feet should not go above the 1m height line.

<p>Hazard – Wall collapse</p> <p>Risk – Multiple Injuries</p>	<p>All Users</p>	<p>The Bouldering Wall panels, supporting poles and joints are regularly checked to ensure that the wall is in good working order.</p>	<p>The Leader in Charge should write an appropriate RA with respect to using the Bouldering Wall. This Risk Assessment should take into account the Hazards, Risk and Controls that have been identified in the document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Users should report any damage and report any concerns they have to feedback.overstone@northamptonscouts.org.uk
<p>Hazard – Falling off the surrounding low fence.</p> <p>Risk – Injury</p>	<p>All Users</p>		<p>The Leader in Charge should write an appropriate RA with respect to using the Bouldering Wall. This Risk Assessment should take into account the Hazards, Risk and Controls that have been identified in the document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervise all young people waiting to use the wall. No-one to sit or stand on the surrounding fence. • Users should report any damage and report any concerns they have to feedback.overstone@northamptonscouts.org.uk
<p>Hazard – Clothing, neckers, lanyards or jewellery caught in the hand/foot holds.</p> <p>Risk – Injury</p>	<p>All Users</p>	<p>Signage - Ensure the safety notice covers the removal of all loose clothing, neckers, jewellery etc before using the wall</p>	<p>The Leader in Charge should write an appropriate RA with respect to using the Bouldering Wall. This Risk Assessment should take into account the Hazards, Risk and Controls that have been identified in the document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity supervisors to make sure all young people remove loose clothing, neckers, jewellery etc before using the wall. • Users should report any damage and report any concerns they have to feedback.overstone@northamptonscouts.org.uk
<p>Hazard – Splinters from the wood panels or surrounding fence.</p> <p>Risk – Injury</p>	<p>All Users</p>	<p>The Bouldering Wall panels and surrounding fence are regularly inspected.</p>	<p>The Leader in Charge should write an appropriate RA with respect to using the Bouldering Wall. This Risk Assessment should take into account the Hazards, Risk and Controls that have been identified in the document.</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear instructions given before entering the activity area. • Users should report any damage and report any concerns they have to feedback.overstone@northamptonscouts.org.uk
Hazard – Weather Risk - Injury and Illness caused by the weather and changes in it	All Users	The AST will action closure of the site or parts of and / or activities in the event of severe weather. Signage	<p>The Leader in Charge should write an appropriate RA with respect to using the Bouldering Wall. This Risk Assessment should take into account the Hazards, Risk and Controls that have been identified in the document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User should be aware of the local weather conditions and changes to it and the impact it could have on the activity and users.

Date of Risk Assessment	01/07/2024	RA Written By	Colin Edge	Version No.	1	Review Date	01/09/2025
Date RA Reviewed	11/03/2026	Reviewed By	Gary Jackson	Version No.	2	Next Review Date	11/03/2028