

Risk Assessment

Establishments: Le Murier School **Activity:** Everest Challenge

Assessment Date: Jan 2026

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Review Date: Jan 2027



1 Hazard	2 Who might be harmed?	3 Is the risk adequately controlled?	4 What further action is needed to control the risk?
Holds Breaking	People standing underneath	All the holds will have been checked by Education Department contractor during February half-term	Visual checks done over the weekend and damaged/loose ones replaced or tightened. Belayer's to inform GD/CH of any loose holds
Anchors	All climbers	Top anchors will have been checked by Education Department contractor during February half-term Floor anchors load tested by Marine & General at time of installation (<i>February half Term 2011</i>)	Visual checks done over the weekend if damage/failure suspected route closed
Gear failure	All involved in climbing wall	Double action self locking, Grigri s and belay plates are checked termly and will have been done just before the event New ropes, ropes reversed regularly. Visual checks done each hour by GD/CH. Suspect gear to be taken out of service (including harnesses next door)	Spare gear available All helmets and harnesses are logged for visual check
Fire	All	The fire exits are kept clear. Pointed out at the start of each session. Dedicated Fire Marshals (school staff) to guide public out of building Fire marshal's identified by High Vis. Jackets One wheel chair user upstairs and any one time as per NOP One "evacchair" available	Key staff will carry pagers Premises Management staff on duty throughout event Premises Staff to check fire exits are clear and operating correctly at start of each day Signs stating 'in the event of a fire/fire alarm, astro turf is fire point' to be put up at Everest reception and mentioned by staff on the desk Included in pre-climb briefing also

Falls	All Climbers	<p>Bottom rope system used</p> <p>Trained belayer's on each rope</p> <p>Only roped climbing allowed on the walls</p> <p>Communication agreed between climbing team and belayer at start of session to establish when to start climbing ie. Not before belayer says "climb"</p>	
<p>Injury as a result of improper behaviour</p> <p>e.g swinging, jumping</p>	All in climbing area	All climbers briefed on safety and expectations of use.	GD/CH vigilant throughout all climbs and has authority to ask someone to leave the climbing room if thought to be endangering themselves or others.
Climbers not tying in correctly	All climbers	Self locking Karabiners, belayer's do visual check and/or clip climbers in themselves.	<p>GD/CH checking the belayer's are vigilant</p> <p>Week before Everest, belayers have further opportunity to practice during training session and practice sessions</p>
Helmets	Climbers under 18	Those harnessing are to ensure that anyone under 18 wears a helmet and advises that others that for their safety a helmet is advisable	
Tiredness of belayers	All	GD/CH to ensure that there are sufficient belayers and that belayers have breaks in belaying and are not belaying for more than two consecutive sessions	Climbing Club have offered considerable support to ease Le Murier trained belaying staff
Falling items	All	Those harnessing to advise that coins, phones etc be taken out of pockets before climbing	
Harnesses not fitted correctly	All Climbers	<p>The harnesses are put on by trained / experienced staff</p> <p>The harnesses are checked again as the climber's come into the climbing area.</p> <p>Visual checks throughout the weekend by all staff especially the belayer's.</p>	<p>All harnesses are checked before event</p> <p>Children's harnesses for those under 5 to be re-checked by GD/CH before climbing</p>

Heat	All	Air-handling system on permanently	Doors opened to allow air flow Doors to be manned for additional safety Climbers to be encouraged to drink water before/during/after the climb
Neck wear and inappropriate shoes (e.g. scarves, Scouts cravat's, high heels, open toes)	Climbers	Those staff harnessing to advise that loose clothing, scarves, cravats be taken off before climbing and that open toe shoes, heels are not appropriate	Prominent, large jewellery that may hinder/danger a climb and are to be highlighted to climber before harnessing and told to remove
Noise level for GD/CH giving instructions	All	Music to be off whilst safety climbing instructions are given to the teams climbing. GD/CH to gain their full attention before briefing on climbing rules	GD/CH to use radio mic music technician will lower music turn up GD/CH mic in the event of emergency
Number of persons in the climbing room/crowd control	All	Climbers not climbing have to stand behind a roped area to give sufficient space to belayers and climbers	Doors to be manned at all times One climber per team on the wall at any time Parents/carers requested to keep hold of small children
Medical attention/incident	All	Staff with first aid training on site at all times First aid boxes available in harnessing room, climbing room and in reception area	First Aid boxes to be prepared by school nurse Remove where possible from climbing room and make safe, seek further medical attention e.g. ambulance if necessary. Record any injury
Additional Needs	All	GD/CH and belayers will have regard for equal opportunities with all climbers and will assess the capabilities of climbers to follow instructions and use the wall safely and act on this assessment as to participation in the activity. Specific harnesses are available and will require additional staff to fit and supervise climb	Those harnessing to make GD/CH aware of specific harness requirement prior to that climb

Child protection	Children	<p>SED protocols followed</p> <p>All children attending are supervised by parents and/or recognised groups i.e. scouts guides etc who take the child protection responsibility</p>	<p>All adults will not be CRB checked.</p> <p>GD/CH and Le Murier SMT to monitor.</p>
Belaying	All climbers	<p>All belayer trained, experiences and updated by GD/CH</p> <p>New ground anchor fitted allowing direct belay thus reducing stress on belayer therefore reducing overall risk of tiredness.</p>	
Disabled hoist	Disabled participants'	<p>Attached through "pulley" system 2:1 ratio</p> <p>Anchored to new ground anchors GD to supervise fitting of "Lightkite" harness and belaying of participant.</p> <p>Anchors at beam checked before event by Education Department contractor during February half-term</p> <p>Static rope used</p>	Rope to be kept clear of other routes when not in use