

Bournemouth Climbing



CONDITIONS OF USE

Risks - “The British Mountaineering Council recognises that climbing and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement.”

Although the climbing centre is an artificial environment the risks involved are **no less serious than when climbing outside** on a crag or mountain. There is an additional risk that bolt-on holds can spin or break.

The soft flooring under the climbing walls is designed to provide a more comfortable landing for climbers falling or jumping from the traverse wall and when lowering off the wall. **THE SOFT FLOORING DOES NOT MAKE THE CLIMBING ANY SAFER. Uncontrolled falls are likely to result in injuries to yourself or others.**

Climbing **beyond your capabilities** on any wall is likely to result in a **fall**. Any fall may result in an **injury** despite the safety systems in place to avoid it. You must make your **own assessment of the risks** whenever you climb.

Our Duty of Care - The rules of the climbing centre set out overleaf **are not** intended to limit your enjoyment of the facilities. They **are** part of the **duty of care** that we, as operators, owe to you, the customer, by law. As such they are **not negotiable** and if you are not prepared to abide by them then the staff must politely ask you to leave.

Your Duty of Care - You also have a duty of care to act responsibly towards the other users of the centre. Statements of ‘Good Practice’ are posted around the centre adjacent to the relevant facilities. These describe the accepted methods of use and how customers would normally be expected to behave towards each other.

Unsupervised Climbing - Before you climb without supervision the centre expects you to be competent in the;

- use of a safety harness
- use of a suitable knot to attach a rope to the harness
- use of a belay device to secure a falling climber or lower a climber from the wall using a rope.

You are required to register to say that you know how to use the equipment, that you are prepared to abide by the Rules below and that you understand the risks involved in your participation. Anyone who has not registered is classed as a novice and must not climb without supervision.

Unsupervised climbing is just that! **Staff will provide whatever help and advice they can, but instruction in the use of equipment or climbing techniques will only be provided where it has been booked and paid for in advance. If you are not confident in the use of any climbing equipment or technique then do not attempt to use it without the supervision of someone who is competent to do so.**

Supervised Climbing - An adult who has registered at the centre may supervise up to **two** novice climbers as long as they are prepared to **take full responsibility for the safety of those people**. Groups of three or more novices must only be supervised by an instructor holding the relevant Mountain Leader Training Board qualification. These must be booked in advance.

Children – All children in the centre must be supervised by an adult unless they have been assessed by the management and registered for unsupervised climbing.



General Safety

- Report to the entrance table on each visit before you climb.
- You must exercise care, common sense and self preservation at all times.
- Report any problems with the walls, equipment or other climbers' behaviour to a member of staff immediately.
- Be aware of the other climbers around you and how your actions will affect them.
- Do not distract people while they are climbing or belaying.
- Stand well back from the climbing walls unless you are belaying or spotting a climber. Never stand directly under someone who is climbing.

Top Roping

- All of the climbs in the centre have top ropes already in place. Do not take them down.

Leading

- Lead climbing can only take place on the main wall where lead bolts are in situ.
- When lead climbing you must supply your own appropriately rated dynamic rope and quick draws.
- When lead climbing do not remove the centres top ropes from the climb. Do not use the centre's top ropes for lead climbing.
- You must clip all the bolts on the route you are climbing.

When Belaying

- Always use a belay device attached to your safety harness with a locking karabiner. 'Traditional', or 'body' belaying is not acceptable.
- Always pay attention to what the climber is doing.
- Always stand as close to the climbing wall as is practical unless you are using one of the attachment points on the floor. Sitting or lying down are not acceptable.
- Be aware of the edge of the safety mats and the potential to trip over these

When Climbing

- The tall walls are designed to be climbed using a rope for protection. Solo climbing is not acceptable on these walls. Always use a rope to protect yourself on these climbs.
- Always use a safety harness to attach yourself to the rope.
- Always tie the rope directly into the harness using a suitable climbing knot. Clipping in with a karabiner is not acceptable.

Traversing

- Always climb within your capabilities and descend by down climbing, jumping or, at the very least, a controlled fall.
- Never climb directly above or below another climber.