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## Climbing Wall

### INTRODUCTION

- The climbing wall offers a great opportunity to experience rock climbing in a controlled environment. Sessions can vary in length with or without ropes as time and ability dictate.

### VENUE

- The wall is located in Thurston OEC's kit store. Other fee paying climbing walls include: Kendal, Ambleside and Keswick.

### STAFFING

- Ratio: The normal instructor/student ratio.
- Group leaders should hold CWA/SPA or higher or have in-house approval for Thurston's wall only.

### EQUIPMENT

- The centre provides all specialist equipment.
- Instructor should carry out a visual inspection on all equipment that is to be used.
- Any personal equipment must meet centre requirements.
- Footwear should be rock boots or light trainers or plimsolls (provided).
- Thurston's climbing wall room is not heated so adequate clothing is required for the conditions.

### OPERATING CONSIDERATIONS

- When climbing above personal shoulder height, ropes and harnesses to be used unless at a suitably protected bouldering wall.
- Any safe peer belaying method is acceptable under strict supervision of leader in charge.
- Harnesses should be checked when first put on and students told that if the buckle is adjusted in any way that it needs to be checked by the instructor again.