

Risk Assessment & Insurance

YMCA Fairthorne Manor work hard to ensure the health, safety and welfare of both individuals and groups visiting our site. We pay particular attention to the needs of children and young people by ensuring that government health and safety guidelines and legislation are adhered to and monitored by designated personnel (see our Health & Safety Policy Statement).

Activities

Where an activity falls within the scope of a national governing body, all instruction is carried out within the guidelines of that organisation, including staff ratios and staff qualifications. Where an activity is considered to be high risk and is outside the scope of a governing body, staff training is carried out 'in house' and our instructors are assessed by a qualified external assessor. In the case of activities delivered at height (climbing, aerial runway, and abseiling), our instructors are then assessed by an external Mountain Leader Training Board/ERCA Trainer qualified assessor.

Some of our activities are covered by the [Adventurous Activities Licensing Authority \(AALA\)](#); licence details can be confirmed by contacting The Licensing Service on 029 2075 5715; alternatively visit the [AALA website](#) and enter "Fairthorne" in the "centre/provider" box. Whilst AALA have determined that not all the activities we provide fall within the scope of their licence, all have been risk assessed and copies are available upon request.

The physical infrastructure of our activities is inspected annually by an accredited external assessor to ensure they are safe and fit for purpose. Activities are then inspected in-house on a regular basis. Our equipment, including harnesses and helmets, is regularly checked and held within permitted life spans.

Staff

All of our activity staff are first aid trained and first aid kits are available at each activity. YMCA Fairthorne Manor has a comprehensive Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Policy and as part of this, all staff are DBS checked.

Insurance

YMCA Fairthorne Manor has public liability insurance cover for up to £10 million, a copy of which is available on our website. We recommend that all groups carefully consider our booking conditions for group visits and follow the guidelines of their Local Educational Authority or other governing body regarding personal accident, travel insurance and cancellation cover.

Fire safety

In accordance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 all of our buildings, including accommodation, have been risk assessed for fire safety (see our Fire Safety Policy).

To ensure that groups are aware of what to do in the event of a fire, a practice fire drill is held on the day of arrival based on the fire list that group leaders have returned to us.

Site risk assessment

Group leaders carrying out their own risk assessments for their visit to Fairthorne Manor should consider the following hazards:

- Tidal river
- Lake and streams
- Woodland areas
- Play park
- Driveways and buildings

The following areas are out of bounds:

- All specialist activity areas e.g. aerial runway
- Boathouse pontoons and canoe sheds (without supervision from a qualified member of our YMCA staff)
- Maintenance yard

To view our policies, visit the [“Our Policies”](#) section of our website.

If you require further information, please contact us on 01489 785228.