

Title	Demonstrate and apply knowledge of safety and emergency procedures for a high ropes course		
Level	5	Credits	15

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is intended for people who provide high ropes activities using complex specialty elements in addition to traversing and climbing activities.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: demonstrate knowledge of high ropes courses and belay systems; demonstrate knowledge of high ropes course emergency procedures and assemble emergency equipment; demonstrate skills for responding to non-routine situations on high ropes courses; and perform rescues for climbers requiring assistance on a high ropes course.</p>
----------------	--

Classification	Outdoor Recreation > High Wires and High Ropes
-----------------------	--

Available grade	Achieved
------------------------	----------

Guidance Information

- 1 All learning and assessment against this standard must be carried out in accordance with the following:
 - relevant legislation, including the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, Human Rights Act 1993, Vulnerable Children Act 2014, and the Health and Safety at Work (Adventure Activities) Regulations 2016;
 - relevant Activity Safety Guidelines published by WorkSafe New Zealand <https://www.supportadventure.co.nz/advice-resources/general-2/activity-safety-guidelines/>;
 - industry Codes including the *Land Safety Code* <https://www.adventuresmart.nz/land/the-land-safety-code>, and *Leave No Trace* principles <https://leavenotrace.org.nz>;
 - a recognised and approved safety management system including organisational policies and procedures including Emergency Action Plans (EAPs), Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), incident response management plans and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE);
 - relevant industry publications and current industry good practice.
- 2 Definitions

Current industry good practice means the range of actions currently accepted within the adventure and outdoor sector to manage the risk of harm to staff, participants, and visitors.

Elements involve fixed apparatus (e.g. poles, cables, ropes) designed to provide challenges for participants.

High ropes activities refer to more complex specialty elements in addition to simple traversing and climbing elements.

3 Evidence towards Outcome 4 can be collected under simulated conditions.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of high ropes courses and belay systems.

Performance criteria

1.1 Inspect high ropes course structures prior to use and explain inspection.

Range inspect at least three elements of a high ropes course; structures may include – nut eye bolts, cables, cable terminations, poles/trees, staples, ground attachment points; explanation includes – how to inspect, what it will look like if incorrect/damaged.

1.2 Inspect belay system prior to use and explain inspection.

Range belay system may include – belay cables, cable pulley, rapid links, shear reduction devices, belay ropes, lanyards; explanation includes – how to inspect, what it will look like if incorrect/damaged.

1.3 Inspect belay equipment prior to use and explain its inspection.

Range belay equipment may include – ropes, harnesses, karabiners, helmets, belay devices, lanyards; explanation includes – how to inspect, what it will look like if incorrect/damaged.

1.4 Demonstrate the use of different belay techniques.

Range techniques may include – use of slot/aperture and locking assist devices, belay post/rix-a-trix, team counterweight.

1.5 Identify safe anchor points for instructor access and working at height.

Outcome 2

Demonstrate knowledge of high ropes course emergency procedures and assemble emergency equipment.

Performance criteria

2.1 Describe policies and operating procedures to avoid non-routine and emergency situations.

- 2.2 Describe policies and operating procedures for emergency situations.
- Range emergency situations include – first aid, health, environmental, rescue.
- 2.3 Describe emergency equipment and possible applications when operating a high ropes course.
- Range may include – personal fall arrest system, cable pulleys, ropes, steel karabiners, belay devices, slings, prusiks, harnesses, helmets, rope-cutting equipment, rope pulleys, etriers, jigger.
- 2.4 Assemble equipment required for belay equipment retrieval for a traversing element and a non-traversing vertical element.
- 2.5 Assemble equipment required for evacuating a climber requiring assistance and explain assembly.
- Range scenarios may include – a climber who has accidentally ‘clipped-in’ to a permanent piece of hardware such as a staple or cable; a climber who has become ‘stuck’ on a fully tensioned/non-releasable rope or lanyard.

Outcome 3

Demonstrate skills for responding to non-routine situations on high ropes courses.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Demonstrate skills to independently access all parts of a high ropes course.
- 3.2 Use a personal fall arrest system to climb and descend a high ropes course.
- 3.3 Use appropriate equipment to traverse an element, passing a fixed point on a belay cable.
- 3.4 Maintain personal safety while responding to non-routine situations.
- 3.5 Perform retrieval of belay equipment.
- Range includes a traversing element and a non-traversing vertical element.
- 3.6 Complete a belay escape.
- Range includes transfer under load without releasing the load.

Outcome 4

Perform rescues for climbers requiring assistance on a high ropes course.

Performance criteria

4.1 Coach an emotionally traumatised, unwilling climber along the element or back to the ground.

Range must include – clear instructions to climber; clear instructions to other participants on the ground; use of empathetic language.

4.2 Assist a climber who has accidentally ‘clipped-in’ to a permanent piece of hardware such as a staple or cable to return to the ground.

Range climber is responsible, willing and able to help themselves but is without specialist expertise or equipment, assistance is available from other people on the ground.

4.3 Evacuate a climber who has become ‘stuck’ on a fully tensioned, non-releasable rope or lanyard.

Range no other assistance is available, climber is unwilling and/or unable to help themselves.

Replacement information	This unit standard replaced unit standard 24664.
--------------------------------	--

Planned review date	31 December 2029
----------------------------	------------------

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	29 November 2018	31 December 2026
Review	2	12 December 2024	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0099
--	------

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Toi Mai Workforce Development Council qualifications@toimai.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.