

## Cavebus Risk Assessments:

1. Running a cavebus session (standard) not including Covid
2. Covid Secure Risk Assessment for Cavebuses
3. Cavebus cleaning schedule

Please ensure that you read and comply with the risk assessments, these risk assessments are considered to ensure that the activities are kept as safe as possible at all times.

# Running a standard cavebus session

Name of activity, event, and location	1. Running a standard cavebus session <i>(See additional Covid secure risk assessment for using / working on cavebuses during the pandemic)</i>	Date of risk assessment	1 June 2021	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Gary McCune  Content taken from initial Cavebus RA by Mark Hoyle and adapted to reflect static bus on site at Raywell Park.
	All locations, this risk assessment is suitable for use with Cavebuses only (due to their unique ventilation and emergency access systems, it would not be appropriate to use this risk assessment for other confined space activities).	Date of next review	1 June 2022 (or as guidance changes that affect this Risk Assessment)		

Hazards	Who is at risk? (Level of risk)	How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed?	Risk (after control measures)	Further controls.
Bodily injuries. (Bumps, Scrapes, Falls).	Participants, Instructors, Maintenance Staff.  (Low risk)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All participants must wear a helmet when inside the cavebus (including entering and exiting the cavebus). Participants and instructors must wear appropriate clothing (covering all limbs).</li> <li>Participants will stay at least two metres away from each other in the cavebus at all times. Participants to be briefed to leave space between each other on entry.</li> <li>Instructors familiar with the cavebus layout (including the emergency exits and emergency passageway).</li> <li>Read the short risk assessment to the participants and ask them questions to check understanding.</li> <li>Event staff to only be left with the activity when they feel competent.</li> <li>Instructors aware of first aid facilities (may not always be onboard, but may be provided by the organising event/location).</li> <li>All emergency exit doors fastened from the outside to stop them failing. Design of the doors makes them failsafe, so that it is not possible to drop an emergency door into the cave system.</li> </ul>	Low	
Safety equipment	Participants, Instructors, Maintenance Staff.  (Low risk)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructors only to allow access to participants who have: correctly fitted helmets,</li> <li>Participants must have suitable clothing that does not restrict movement,</li> <li>No wearing of jewellery on (rings, earrings, watches).</li> <li>Instructors refuse access to the activity if the participant refuses to wear a helmet or appropriate fitting helmet is not available.</li> <li>Instructor or competent adult to check helmets and clothing for appropriate fit.</li> <li>Instructors are to visually check that nothing restricts participants movement or could catch/snag/cause entrapment in the cave.</li> </ul>	Low	

Headlamp failure	Participants, Instructors, Maintenance Staff.  (Low risk)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief participants not to worry if their lights fail; and have a spare torch handy to pass to participants. Inform participants that if they are worried, shout for help and an instructor will open the access door to assist.</li> <li>• Instructors familiar with cave system layout, comfortable about being in confined space and have undergone site specific training.</li> <li>• If necessary open emergency exit doors to allow light into passage to calm any panicking participant.</li> </ul>	Low	
Panic / Claustrophobia	Participants, Instructors, Maintenance Staff.  (Low risk)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief participants not to panic, to ask for help and describe where in the cave they are. No part of the cave is more than 5m from an emergency exit.</li> <li>• Instructor to open the nearest emergency hatches and assist participants to exit the cave. Instructors familiar with layout, comfortable about being in confined space and have undergone site specific training.</li> <li>• Show nervous participants the cave from an emergency exit so that they can make an informed choice about using the activity.</li> <li>• Do not pressure any participant and stop any peer pressuring immediately.</li> </ul>	Low	
Entrapment / Evacuation	Participants, Instructors, Maintenance Staff.  (Low risk)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructor to immediately open all hatches (allowing as much air and light in as possible). Use an available helmet/ light to light up the passage and allow the trapped participant to see around them.</li> <li>• Assist and talk participants into freeing themselves by reversing their manoeuvres. In extreme circumstances assist in freeing the participant through pushing or pulling (where appropriate and necessary).</li> <li>• Second instructor/supporter to assist all other participants to exit the cave where appropriate.</li> <li>• All participants to be informed about exit doors and exiting the cave system safely. Ask all removed participants to wait at a designated point.</li> <li>• Ask participant to turn 45 degrees to the floor of the cave passageway in standard cave passageways. Standard passages are 18 inch squared; by taking the 45 degree angle in this passageway you are increasing available space to 25.4 inches.</li> <li>• Ensure that persons waiting to go into the cavebus/waiting for friends in the cavebus are a safe distance from the bus at all times to avoid crowding if an evacuation has to take place.</li> </ul>	Low	

Contraband	Participants, Instructors, Maintenance Staff.  (Low risk)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructor to brief participants not to take the following inside the cave: Mobile phones, batteries, food, drinks, lighters matches or anything sharp.</li> <li>• Instructors familiar with layout, comfortable about being in confined space and have undergone site specific training.</li> <li>• Instructors to remove anyone from the cave system who breaks contraband rules.</li> <li>• Instructors reserve the right not to allow any person back on the activity.</li> </ul>	Low	
Head injuries	Participants, Instructors, Maintenance Staff.  (Low risk, when wearing helmets)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High level of probability of a head strike inside the cave or exiting through an emergency exit. All participants are to wear helmets to minimise the effect of any bumps.</li> <li>• Instructor or competent adult to ensure that helmets are fitted correctly.</li> </ul>	Low	
Heat / temperature	Participants, Instructors, Maintenance Staff.  (Low risk)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructors to be aware of the temperature in the cavebus and be prepared to stop the activity if the temperature gets too warm.</li> <li>• Cages fitted in top areas of all cavebuses to allow cool air to enter the system.</li> <li>• Open bus fire exit to allow cool air in. On coach versions ensure the safety chains or panels are in place across fire doors. Open emergency doors labelled "Emergency door and vent" when in use to cool the cave down.</li> <li>• Open all emergency doors when the cave is not in use to allow air into the system and allow the system to cool down.</li> <li>• <b>Do not leave doors marked "Emergency exit only" open when participants are in the cave</b></li> </ul>	Low	

# Covid Secure Working Risk Assessment for Cavebus

Name of activity, event, and location	Covid secure working  All locations, this risk assessment is suitable for use with Cavebuses only (due to their unique ventilation and emergency access systems, it would not be appropriate to use this risk assessment for other confined space activities).	Date of risk assessment	1 <sup>st</sup> June 2021	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Gary McCune  Content taken from initial Cavebus RA by Mark Hoyle and adapted to reflect static bus on site at Raywell Park.
		Date of next review	1 <sup>st</sup> June 2022 (or as guidance changes that affect this Risk Assessment)		

**NOTE: Some cavebuses are currently still being used for essential confined space training. Mobile cavebuses at large events will not be used for recreation until NYA / Scouts move to Green status or the Covid situation allows. Sites with static cavebuses may adapt the risk assessment and start using their cavebus when they feel that it is safe, on a site by site basis.**

Hazard	Who is at risk? (Level of risk)	How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed?	Risk (after control measures)	Further controls
Spread of Covid-19	Participants, staff, instructors and general public.  (Moderate, based on current infection rates).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff, instructors, participants and visitors not to be allowed onboard or near a cavebus if displaying any Covid related symptoms or have been in contact with anyone displaying symptoms.</li> <li>Follow TSA guidance on testing and wearing of masks</li> <li>Follow TSA guidance for COVIDI reporting if necessary</li> <li>Observers to stay at least 5 metres away from the cavebus at all times. (This is good practice anyway and reduces crowding around the entrance/exit areas).</li> </ul>	Low	
Contact transmission – Participants	Participants, staff, instructors and general public.  (Low if participants tested for Covid before using the cavebus).  (Moderate if no testing).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All touch surfaces external to the cave system (handles) to be wiped regularly with anti-bacterial wipes.</li> <li>Helmets to be issued to individual participants. The helmet is not to be interchanged between participants without cleaning.</li> <li>All participants wash hands and use hand sanitiser prior to entering the cavebus.</li> <li>All staff to wash hands regularly, using soap and for a duration of at least 20 seconds.</li> <li>Use hand sanitiser between trips through the cave (i.e. if one participant decides to re-enter the cave they must use hand sanitiser between trips).</li> <li>Participants are to keep their helmet for the duration of the activity. Helmets must be isolated for 24hrs after use by one participant.</li> </ul>	Low	

Ventilation	Participants, staff, instructors and general public.  (Moderate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that all doors and windows are open to allow good air circulation through the cave.</li> <li>• Remove emergency doors labelled “Emergency Door and Vent”.</li> <li>• Do not leave emergency doors open that are marked “Emergency Door Only”.</li> <li>• Open all windows and doors in the cavebus.</li> <li>• Open doors to allow air to circulate. Leave cave emergency doors open once the activity is finished where possible (security).</li> </ul>	Low	
Exit Route <b>(Bus variants, NOT suitable for coach variants).</b>	Participants, staff, instructors and general public.  (Moderate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider allowing participants to exit the cave through the lowest emergency door (next to the fire door) and out of the fire door if safe / appropriate. (Note: the fire door is too high to do this on the coach variants). Exits to be managed appropriately on the coach variants.</li> <li>• <b>DO NOT use the fire door as an exit for the coach variants as this is too high from the ground.</b></li> </ul>	Low	
Cleaning after confirmed Covid Contamination	Participants, staff, instructors and general public.  (High)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact Cavebus Company - Cavebus company will schedule a deep clean of the cavebus.</li> <li>• Cavebus to be quarantined for a period of one week before cavebus staff enter to clean the activity.</li> <li>• Cavebus company to do a deep clean if confirmed Covid contamination.</li> </ul>	Low	
Social Distancing	Participants, staff, instructors and general public.  (Moderate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants, instructors and anyone else remain 2m apart at all times.</li> <li>• One person to enter the cavebus at a time, instructor to show them where to go, and next participant not to enter until the first participant has cleared the first passage.</li> <li>• Instructor to brief participants to keep 2m apart inside the cave at all times.</li> <li>• Instructor to brief participants and observers to keep to 2m social distancing.</li> <li>• Helmets to be left in a designated place by participants after their session and cleaned before being re-used.</li> </ul>	Low	
Helmets and equipment	Participants, staff, instructors and general public.  (Moderate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the pandemic helmets and torches are now not transferable without suitable cleaning.</li> <li>• Helmet and torch to be allocated to one participant. This equipment is to remain with the participant to the end of the session.</li> <li>• Helmets and torches to be wiped down by participants after the activity, using antibacterial wipes, then again by the instructor just before the next session.</li> </ul>	Low	

# Cavebus cleaning schedule

Time interval	Method	Responsibility
Every 30 minutes when in use. Also before every new group and at the end of every session.	Wipe down all touch surfaces (external to the cave system). Using Anti Bacterial wipes.	Participants / Instructor.
Every hour (or every time a new person receives a helmet).	Wipe down helmet using anti bacterial wipes.	Participant / Instructor.
Every week.	Sweep out emergency passageways and clean accessible areas of the cave.	Site Cleaning Team / Volunteers
Every three months.	Deep clean and antibacterial fogging.	Cavebus Company.
Every two years	Repaint interior of the cave system.	Cavebus Company.
Every three years	Exterior repaint of cavebus (Using Tekaloid Coach Paint).	Cavebus Company.