

Blue Peris Mountain Centre

Dinorwic, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 3ET

Tel: 01286 870853
E Mail: bpmc-sales@fusion-lifestyle.co.uk
Fax: 01286 870853
Web: www.blueperis.co.uk

Centre Risk Management Summary

The purpose of this summary is to satisfy clients that our risk analysis and management schemes are adequately robust and meet a variety of industry standards.

Centre details:

Name: Blue Peris Mountain Centre
Authority: Fusion Lifestyle

Adventure Activities License Details:

The holding of an Adventure Activities Licence means that we have been inspected by the Adventure Activities Licensing Service (AALS), and our risk analysis and management systems were found to be satisfactory. More about what holding a license means can be found on the Licensing Authority's website: www.aala.org.uk

We hold a one year licence which is the longest which can be awarded to our type of organisation, reflecting the quality of our safety systems.

Registration Number: L13261/R0060

These details can be checked with the Licensing Authority.

Risk – Benefit Assessments

Children and young people have a thirst for adventure and challenge.

Blue Peris has a long and successful history of providing outdoor and adventure education activities to young people.

The benefits of these activities for participants are numerous and include:

- Increased levels of trust and opportunities to examine the concept of trust (us in them, them in us, them in themselves, them in each other).
- Involvement in activities leading to greater academic and vocational learning with improved achievement and attainment across a range of curricular subjects. Students are active participant's not passive consumers and a wide range of learning styles can flourish.
- Enhanced opportunities for 'real world' 'learning in context' and the development of the social aspects of intelligence.
- Increased risk management skills through opportunities for involvement in practical risk-benefit assessments ('what do we want to do and what do we need to do to make it safe enough?'). Giving learners the tools and experience necessary to assess their own risks in a range of contexts.
- Opportunities to practically examine the components of challenge (i.e. Chance of gain or benefit / risk of loss or harm / accurate goal setting and judgment / willingness and commitment / activity outside the comfort zone (physical and/or emotional).
- Greater sense of personal responsibility.
- Enhanced emotional intelligence (including a greater awareness of their own needs and the needs of others).
- Possibilities for genuine team working including enhanced communication skills.
- Improved environmental appreciation, knowledge, awareness and understanding. Including opportunities to interact with a wild environment.
- Improved awareness and knowledge of the importance and practices of sustainability in the modern world.
- Physical skill acquisition and the development of a fit and healthy lifestyle.

The Centre's aim is to achieve an appropriate level of challenge to maximise the learning for each participant. The aim is not to make the learning environment as safe as possible but as safe as it needs to be.

Staff Competence and Qualifications:

All staff will either hold a relevant National Governing Body (NGB) qualification, an equivalent in house assessment of competence (assessed by an appropriately experienced instructor) or be given permission by the Head of Centre. These procedures are consistent with the requirements of the Licensing Regulations.

Our staff have a proven background in a variety of activities and new staff are vetted by taking into consideration their experience and knowledge of activities, venues and soft skills. This is achieved by the relevant combination of the following: contacting previous / current employers, and/or sourcing views from other experienced staff, on site observation by the new staff member, additional training and in house approval for certain activities.

Copies of staff qualifications are available for inspection on site and a list of staff and qualifications can be forwarded if required.

ASSOCIATION OF HEADS OF OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRES' GOLD STANDARD

Blue Peris has been inspected in the following areas of outdoor education and has achieved the standard of excellent in all:

- Customer care
- Safety management, policy, organisation and planning
- Facilities
- Environmental sustainability
- Quality assurance, measuring and reviewing performance
- General conditions

Learning Outside the Classroom Badge

As highlighted above we have gone a level above the Lotc and gained the Gold Standard

Child Protection:

Our policy is consistent with current good practice in this area and meets current statutory requirements and Fusion Lifestyle's protocols. Disclosure and Barring Service Checks (formerly known as CRB) are carried out on all new staff.

Supervision when not on activities:

Overnight supervision (from when the duty instructor leaves the site (usually 9pm) to when they return (usually 7.45am)) is carried out by staff accompanying the group from the visiting organisation. On other instances, such as specialist courses (i.e. young persons and D of E courses) the centre supplies a member of staff to be on duty 24hrs a day.

To support visiting staff, centre staff offer advice and there is an emergency procedures file kept in the staff room with advice on handling emergencies including centre staff telephone numbers.

TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The visiting group leader has overall responsibility for their group at all times. The Centre Managers and Senior Staff at Blue Peris have responsibility for the programme, the equipment and general provision of the Centre and for operating the Centre to legal requirements.

Blue Peris staff will be responsible for the safety and management of participants on all Blue Peris led activities. It is essential that visiting staff provide advice regarding individuals and offer appropriate support to enable the instructional staff to properly perform their duties.

Visiting staff remain *in loco parentis* at all times for participants under 18. If a participant is withdrawn from the "led" activity for any reason, then the responsibility for those withdrawn will revert to the visiting staff. If at any time the visiting staff are unhappy about the activity it is essential that they make their concerns known to Blue Peris staff at the earliest opportunity.

Visiting staff may insist that any activity does not continue on the grounds of physical or psychological harm, or that the activity is not commensurate with their planned outcomes.

Clients Responsibility for safety

Participants in our courses, including children and young people, also have a responsibility for their safety of themselves and others. They are expected to follow safety instructions, act reasonably with common sense relative to their age and are encouraged to share any concerns or issues with staff, in confidence if necessary.

Security Arrangements:

External doors either have the following;

- Locks on them which are locked when not in use.
- Fire safety release bolts.
- Coded door locks. The coded doors all have self closures and snibs have been removed so the locks cannot be put on the catch. This means to open these doors you need the code. The codes are also changed throughout the year.

All external visitors to the site should be signed in.

There is a staff photo board in the lobby area. This helps in the identification of Blue Peris staff by visitors. Groups are informed that if they are unsure of anyone trying to access the centre then not to let them in.

Risk Assessments:

Activity risk assessments are inspected as part of our Adventure Activities License, and AHOEC Gold Standard Badge. In addition to this, Fusion Lifetsyle also inspects the centre and all non-activity parts of our operation. (Copies are available for inspection on site only.)

They are written to cover a comprehensive list of activities and centre procedures. Many activities have site specific guidance to accompany the Risk Assessment.

Activity and Venue Suitability

There are daily morning staff meetings. Here issues such as weather, student issues, venues, ratios, abilities, etc are discussed amongst staff. From here the decisions are made. All this information is then written on a daily log sheet and these archived.

Insurance: Fusion holds the relevant insurance through RSA

Fire Protection:

The centre has a comprehensive Fire Protection Policy and has undergone a full fire risk assessment by an independent consultant.

The building has cover of emergency lighting, smoke detectors and fire alarm points which are linked to a full fire alarm. These are all maintained and checked by companies which specialize in these areas. Fire extinguishers are to be found in a variety of places throughout the building. Fire drills are carried out with every course in residence. An evening emergency fire action plan is given to our visiting staff to complete and there is also information on what to do in the event of a fire.

We have been inspected by the local fire authority in view of the Fire Order 2006. In addition to this Mark Richards (Head of centre) is the nominated responsible person and has attended Fire Safety Training Courses. All other staff (there may be certain periods where new staff are waiting to go on a course) have attended basic fire safety training either in house or by our independent fire consultant.

First Aid

All instructors hold valid first aid qualifications and work within the remit of their accrediting body.

The Centre Manager and Deputy is FAW qualified and the Centre Manager trains others in Rescue and Emergency Care First Aid.

There is a dedicated first aid resource cupboard on site alongside a medicines book and an accident book. All first aid issues/incidents are recorded.

All incidents are raised at staff meetings in order to review each incident and ensure any appropriate action is raised.

The domestic staff and site agent also hold a variety of first aid qualifications.

Transport:

Coach transport can be provided to the Centre.

Transport to and from activity venues is provided by minibus. There are comprehensive and structured procedures in place. Key points are shown below:

- The Centre has four minibuses that are inspected and serviced quarterly by a garage. Detailed weekly inspections are carried out by the Site Agent and daily inspections are carried out by each instructor/driver.
- Drivers either all hold D1 + E on their driving license or hold a PSV. In addition to these all drivers undertake a Midas minibus driver safety test.
- Section 19 permits held: Small Bus Permit for passenger classes B & D

- Provision is in place to ensure all faults on buses are reported and dealt with appropriately.

Hire of Mini Buses

At peak times we hire in extra mini buses to cope with demand. These buses come from a reputable, local company. Once on site they are subject to the centre's daily checking regime by staff. In addition to this, the same policies apply to staff driving them as to our own buses.

Old School Lodge

Certain courses are run from the Old School Lodge in Dinorwic. The centre endeavors to ensure that all the relevant safety checks are in place from a building perspective. However, for full details please contact the OSL direct in order to be happy and assured that these are in place and up to date.

Equipment:

Specialist equipment is provided but visitors can also use their own, if centre staff agree it is suitable. All equipment provided will be fit for purpose and is inspected as part of our Adventure Activities Licence. Records of equipment checks will be available for inspection on site.

Other HSE Issues:

The centre has a variety of other systems/policies in place to ensure that other aspects of HSE at the centre are addressed. Examples include: PAT testing on electrical equipment, health & hygiene inspections, water testing for legionella, gas appliance testing.

Off Site Accommodation Venues:

The centre cannot guarantee that sites other than Blue Peris have the systems and policies in place.

Declaration

I declare that the information above to the best of my knowledge is accurate.

Centre Manager
Mark Richards