

**BOLTON SCHOOL**  
**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE**

<b>Activity</b>	Bouldering (indoor and outdoor)
<b>Introduction</b>	Bolton School runs numerous bouldering sessions throughout each term, these can be outdoors or indoors at specific bouldering facilities.
<b>Instructor minimum competency</b>	<b>Instructor</b> - Rock Climbing Instructor/Single Pitch Award or Climbing wall instructor or statement of competence.  <b>Assistant instructor</b> – Rock Climbing Instructor training/Single pitch award or Climbing wall instructor training or statement of competence.
<b>Normal ratios</b>	Outdoors - Teacher: Participant Ratio – 1:12 Indoors – Teacher: Participant Ratio – 1:12 Indoors – Teacher: Participant Ratio – 1:14 (experienced boulders only)
<b>Safety equipment (instructors)</b>	First Aid Kit Bouldering Pads
<b>Safety equipment (participants)</b>	Every group member will need to wear clothing suitable for the activity and weather, climbing shoes and have access to climbing chalk. A drink and food should also be carried if needed.
<b>Suggested tasks on arrival</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Once at the bouldering venue whether its indoors or out, a base should be located where pupils can leave bags and belongings</li> <li>• Staff should sign pupils in at reception if indoors should collect equipment and wait for instructors</li> <li>• Staff should brief pupils on aims of activity and if there are beginners run an introductory session covering spotting, picking the right problems, descending</li> </ul>
<b>Suggested pre activity briefing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other users</li> <li>• Risks of falls</li> <li>• Descending boulders</li> <li>• Try to jump off in control before you fall off</li> <li>• Slips, trips and falls</li> </ul>
<b>General safety procedures</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Beginners should be climbing with an instructor and taught the skills needed to boulder as safely as possible</li> <li>2. Some pupils may be very experienced and may have been bouldering for several years. For these pupils, it is important they climb in friendship groups and supervise themselves</li> <li>3. Each session can be very different with different abilities and experience in the group. The instructor will decide what will be the best way to run the session for the needs of everyone.</li> </ol>
<b>End of session</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean kit and return to store</li> <li>• Report and damaged kit</li> <li>• Report any accidents</li> </ul>