

WEST MAINLAND LEISURE CENTRE

CLIMBING WALL FAQ'S

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Can I just come anytime?

Registered climbers can come along and use the climbing wall any time the centre is open. The only exception to availability is where there is a sole use group or party booking.

What is a registered/competent climber?

There are two ways of becoming a registered climber:

1. If you have climbed elsewhere before, and know what you are doing, you can complete a climbing registration form and short question paper. Under 18s will still need to be assessed by an instructor.

Attend at least one of our induction sessions to learn how to fit a harness, tie-in properly and belay safely.



How much does it cost?

There are varied prices for our climbing activities. For example, an Induction is £8 (Standard) and £5 (Concession) per session which includes tuition and equipment.

Once you have completed your induction, it costs £4.95 (Standard) and £5 (Concession) per session excluding equipment hire.

Harness hire cost - £1

Shoe Hire - £2

Ask at reception for more details.

*prices will increase from the 1st April.

Do I have to bring my own equipment?

We have all that you need. We have harnesses that fit most children and two sizes of adults harnessed. All harnesses are issued with a karabiner & belay device. We also have climbing shoes, ranging from adult size 1-13.

2 sizes of helmets are available at all times for anyone who needs one.

Harness hire cost - £1

Shoe Hire - £2

Can I bring my own equipment?

Yes, as long as your equipment is in good safe condition and clean.

How old do you have to be?

We have Junior courses available for ages 4-7 and 8+.

For inductions, the child must be 14 years old before they can learn all the skills and knowledge required to become a competent climber. Children ages 14-17 must gain parental consent before they can become a registered climber.

To climb on the wall, a child can be any age, as long as they fit in to the harness safely and comfortably (this is usually around 4 years old).

How many induction sessions do I need?

The average number of sessions is three. Some climbers may take longer to become confident in their ability, and some people may take less time. It's all about making sure you are safe and capable when you are climbing and belaying. Some people come for a single session as a refresher if they haven't climbed for a long time.

Can I come on my own?

Yes, as a registered climber you can come along to traverse, boulder and use the circuit board.

Remember, unless you are belayed by a competent climber, you must stay below the green traverse line.

There is an open public session every Wednesday where you can climb with other registered climbers.



Can i bring my friends who are not inducted?

A competent climber can sign in up to 2 novice guests. This can be a mixture of adults and children. Please note: novice guests are NOT permitted to belay, the competent climber should enforce these rules as they are responsible for the safety and wellbeing of their guests.

Is there lead climbing available?

Yes, all routes are fitted with in-situ quick draws. You must provide your own lead rope – do not use the centre wall ropes for lead climbing.

How do I know what classes are running?

WMLC release Climbing Wall Timetables frequently, you can see them on the SRT website, on Facebook or in the centre.

Can I hire out the Climbing Wall?

Yes, you can hire out the wall for birthday parties, or just as a group booking. The price is varied, depending on how many climbers there will be and their age. The price includes 1 (or more) instructors, use of the wall for your choice of time, and all the equipment required. Get in touch with WMLC Reception for more details.

What has the wall got?

Built in 2018, 9 roped lines, each with 3 or 4 routes. Grading from 4 to 7+.

- Quickdraws on all lines.
- Vertical and overhanging areas to a maximum of 7.5m high.
- Standard 40° circuit board with set B MoonBoard holds.
- 6m x 3m high traverse and boulder area with 300mm matting