Murton Park Pre-History
Risk Assessment

Task:	Pre History This assessment covers the activities undertaken within the Danelaw Centre for Living History. Reference has been made to current HASPEV guidelines. Schools visiting the site are required to conduct their own risk assessments taking into account the age, needs and capabilities of the children. Our staff work in conjunction with teachers to supervise activities and manage risks appropriately. Events are generally held for Key stage 3 – 6 i.e., children who are 7 – 11 years old.	Ref:	Pre History
Persons Affected:	Employees, School Children, School Staff	Length of activity:	Activities generally take place between 10.00 – 15.00.

Hazard	Hazard Effect	Severity	Likelihood	Risk Rating	Current Control Measures	Additional Control Measures	Residual Risk
Manual handling activities including the movement of general items when moving and handling props and work items on site. .	Back strains from stooping and lifting. Foot fatigue from standing on cold hard floor for long periods of time. Sprains and strains. Items being dropped when handling. Foot impact/general foot injuries. Repetitive strains (WRULDs).	3	3	9 M	• Avoid handling where possible and use mechanical aids such as sack trolleys. • Help from other staff is available should it be needed – ensure a 2 man lift or a banksman is in place when handling larger sized items. • Safety footwear is worn to protect from impact wounds to feet. • Gloves are provided to help grip where required. • The job is varied, therefore repetitive lifting is not constant. • Workers have scheduled breaks throughout their day. • Handling aids – trolleys and pump trucks can be used to reduce manual handling. • Loads can be split into smaller items which are easier to handle.	• Manual handling training is provided. • Assessments to be carried out for activities where manual handling cannot be avoided and there is reasonably foreseeable significant risk.	3L

Weather conditions Slipping & tripping hazards / extreme heat or cold	Staff and visitors injured or made ill by site conditions	3	3	9	• Weather conditions are assessed by staff each day and appropriate action is taken to deal with adverse conditions, including cancelling events if deemed necessary. • Water and sunscreen are provided in hot weather. • Paths and roads are gritted as and when needed. • Main path throughout the Pre-History area is in good condition.	• Appropriate footwear to be worn at all times. • Paths and walkways to be maintained. • Where the risk of slippery walkways increases due to the weather, the area is to be cordoned off. • No procedure in place on what to do in the event of adverse weather.	6
Weather conditions Exposure to ultraviolet rays in sunlight	Reddening of the skin, blisters, with long term potentially leadings to a chance of developing skin cancer.			9	• Suitable clothing to be worn to ensure protection. This could be long sleeved tops and trousers, or ropes and other types of clothing. • Hats to worn where possible to protect the ears, and the back of the neck. • High factor sunscreen of at least SPF15 on any exposed skin. • Plenty of water available to avoid dehydration. • Regular skin checks of moles, and skin tags. Informing of GP if any chances occur.	• What information is communicated to ensure the children are kept safe?	6
Excess numbers of visitors Inadequate supervision / overcrowding	Increased risk of accidents and injuries when overcrowding starts to occur	3	2	6	• There is a limit of 34 children working in a single group or a maximum of four activity groups.		4
Supervision of children Inadequate supervision	Children becoming injured or causing damage when left unsupervised	4	3	12	• School group leaders and their assistants are responsible for supervising children at all times on site. • Murton Park provide a leader for the day who works in conjunction with school staff.		6

Fire safety Fire breaking out due to poorly maintained equipment or other potential ignition sources	All people in area at risk of serious injury	5	2	10	• Staff carry out daily checks ensuring that exits from buildings are clear, adequate signage is in place and that any fire hazards are removed. • Electrical equipment that is used within the area is subject to regular checks. • Where fire alarms are installed in buildings, they are tested weekly. • Fire extinguishers are provided, and these are regularly checked. • Staff are trained in site fire procedures. • Briefings on fire procedures are given to visiting school staff. • Fire pits are for simulation only and are not used within this area.		4
Movement from buses or minibuses by staff or school staff and children Other vehicles moving in area, or without warning	Serious or fatal injury if struck by a vehicle	4	4	16	• Buses are parked as near to the entrance to the site as possible, away from the general public car park. • The Murton Park day leader and school staff supervise children disembarking.	• It was reported that occasionally, staff from the DVLR can ignore staff when the schools are disembarking from the buses. Communication needs to happen to ensure that no access can be gained whilst the individuals are coming off the bus.	4
Children running around site Slips, trips and falls.	Children becoming injured by falling, potentially leading to fractures or impacts	2	3	6	• School staff are briefed on arrival of the potential for slip and trip hazards around site and of the need for children to not run. • School children are continuously supervised whilst at Murton Park.	• Any areas that pose a significant risk of slips, must be cordoned off and access restricted.	4
Touching animals (generally two sheep)	Children suffering illness if incorrect	3	3	9	• Children and school staff are briefed on the potential hazards at the start of the day and advised not to touch	• Hands must be washed straight	6

Biological Risk	procedures are followed				the animals or put their hands in their mouth if they have been in contact with animals. • Hand sanitizer is readily available. • Children are taken to wash their hands before lunch.	after touching the animals.	
Pregnant ewes Toxoplasmosis	Pregnant ladies contracting the condition leading to abortion or people with a weak immune system becoming serious ill	4	3	12	• Warnings are issued to pregnant ladies or individuals who have a weakened immune system when there is a potential hazard.	• Individuals with weakened immune systems must make themselves known to the staff prior to coming to site. • If confirmed within a pregnant ewe, it is recommended to be isolated.	4
Water in ditches and ponds Children falling in	Children drowning or soaked and upset / shocked	5	3	15	• Activities take place away from water hazards. • Signs and fences are in place to reduce potential for falling in water. • Group leaders are briefed on the potential hazards. • Children are continuously supervised by school staff and are never isolated.		5
Rubbing stones together Crushing injury	Crushed / bruised fingers	3	3	9	• Children are briefed before any hands-on activities and are supervised throughout.		4
Display items Items falling and striking children	Head or body injuries, depending on the item	3	3	9	• 'Do not touch' signs and barriers are used where appropriate. • Children are always supervised.		4
First aid provision injuries requiring minor attention	Injuries exacerbated if inadequate provision	3	3	9	• There is adequate provision of first aid equipment and staff with first aid training. • First aid provision is covered in the pre-start briefing. • Nearest first aid kit is located within the round houses.		4
Out of bounds areas	Children injured	3	3	9	• Children are instructed on site rules at the start of the day. • Children are constantly supervised.		4

Various potential hazards that are fenced off.					• Children are accompanied if requiring the toilet outside scheduled times.		
General site Slips and trips	Children and adults injured in a fall	4	3	12	• Staff do daily site checks and deal with significant hazards. • Safety rules are communicated to school staff and children. • Children are always supervised.	• Appropriate footwear to be worn at all times. • Paths and walkways to be maintained. • Where the risk of slippery walkways increases due to the weather, the area is to be cordoned off.	4
Guided tour and talk in Round Houses Trip hazard in darkened house	Children, staff or teachers could be injured in a fall	3	3	9	• Children and teachers are briefed on the hazard and walk slowly in single file after being guided in. • The room is kept clear of significant tripping hazards.		4
Wearing costumes Rope causing tripping hazard	Children, staff or teachers injured	2	3	6	• Children are issued with a tunic and rope tied at the waist by an adult. • Ropes are re-tied by the supervising adult if they begin to sag. • Children are made aware of this at the start of the activity.		4
Handling artefacts Sharp or heavy items	Cuts / crushed fingers	2	3	6	• Hazards covered in briefing and constant supervision. • Staff regularly check artefacts to be handled.		4
Clay work	Bench / table collapsing Children during the collapse	3	3	9	• Staff regularly check the condition of furniture.	• Evidence?	6
	Allergic reaction Skin irritation	3	3	9	• Visiting parties are asked to provide information on any children with specific allergies and potential hazard is covered in briefing.	• What precautions are then put in place?	6

	Ingestion of clay Ill health / choking	5	3	15	• Children warned of hazard during briefing and supervised constantly. • First aiders are present at the time of the activity.		4
Grinding corn using saddle querns	Wheat allergy Allergic reaction	3	3	9	• Visiting parties are asked to provide information on any children with specific allergies and potential hazard is covered in briefing.	What precautions are then put in place?	6
	Nipping / crushing fingers Injury to hands and fingers	2	3	6	• Task is carefully demonstrated and supervised.		4
Hunting practice – spear throwing Lack of control when throwing or overthrowing the spear	Children or other pedestrians injured if struck or falling	2	3	6	• Wooden broom poles with leather spear heads are used. • Throwing and target areas are clearly marked. • Throwing and retrieval is done separately under supervision.		4
Lunch time	Boisterous activity Injuring occurring	3	3	9	• Some degree of supervision is maintained.	• Permanent supervisor is required.	6
	Allergies Serious illness could happen	3	3	9	• Children bring their own packed lunches and schools manage pupils with significant allergies that could be affected by other pupils' food.		6
	Collapse of bench / table Injury from the collapsing equipment	3	3	9	• Condition of equipment is regularly checked. • Children are supervised.	• Evidence?	6
Leaving site Children wandering off	Distress / injury	3	2	6	• Children are briefed on the end of day procedures. • Supervisors constantly present.	• Any nominal roles taken throughout the day?	4

The Health and Safety at Work Etc Act 1974 The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992 The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998	**The overall risk of the task is low to medium when all the control measures detailed above are implemented.**

Risk Scale

S = Severity (Nature of injury)
1. Minor injury – no time off work
2. Minor injury – time off work
3. Injury resulting in over 7 days off work
4. Specified injury
5. Fatality

L = Likelihood (Chance of injury occurring)
1. Rare
2. Unlikely
3. Possible
4. Likely
5. Definite

TR = Total Risk
Severity x Likelihood

Severity → / Risk ↘ / Likelihood ↓	1 – Minor injury, no time off	2 – Minor injury, time off	3 – Injury, 7 days off work	4 – Specified injury	5 – Fatality
1 – Rare	1	2	3	4	5
2 – Unlikely	2	4	6	8	10
3 – Possible	3	6	9	12	15
4 – Likely	4	8	12	16	20
5 – Definite	5	10	15	20	25

Assessor Name:	Bob Harvey	Date:	3rd November 2026
Signature:	B Harvey		
Review Date:	November 2027	Or before if there is a significant change to the activity, legal requirement, organisation or following an accident meaning that the risk assessment is no longer valid.	