Murton Park Viking Village
Risk Assessment

Task:	This assessment covers the activities undertaken within the Viking Village and Discovery area. Reference has been made to current HASPEV guidelines. School's 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. Activities generally take place between 10.00 – 15.00. The general public also has access to these areas.			Ref:	Viking Village
Persons Affected:	Events are generally held for Key stage 3 – 6 i.e., children who are 7 – 11 years and the area can be visited by the general public.	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, inside and outside the	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.	• Appropriate footwear to be worn at all times.	6

buildings where there is wooden flooring, paths and footbridges could also become wet and slippery					• Water and sunscreen are provided in hot weather. • Paths and roads are gritted as and when needed. • Main path throughout the Roman activity area is in good condition. • No running is communicated throughout all staff, teachers, and children.	• 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.	
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 64 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	All people in area at risk of serious injury	5	3	15	• Staff carry out daily checks ensuring that exits from buildings are clear, adequate signage is in place and that any fire hazards are removed.	• Fire watch will need to be implemented to	4

Fire breaking out due to poorly maintained equipment or other potential ignition sources being introduced such as the fire that occurs within the long house. (Open fire in hearth)					• Electrical equipment that is used within the area is subject to regular checks. Although it was reported at the time that there was no electrical equipment at the roman area. • 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 detection has been placed within the long house. This is tested weekly. • Firefighting equipment has been installed within the long house. (Water mist FE and Fire blanket). • The fire is monitored and kept to a manageable size by two members of staff. • Children are instructed to keep away from the fire. • Materials placed on fire are carefully checked.	ensure the fire does not reignite after being put off. • Evidence of weekly testing is required.	
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
Stairways, steps and access to buildings around the Viking village Slips and trips	Potential for injury or fall if access is gained.	4	3	12	• Many of the buildings are out of bounds and have a barrier across the doorway. • Children are supervised at all times to ensure this is controlled.	• Appropriate footwear to be worn at all times. • Paths and walkways to be maintained.	6

						• Where the risk of slippery walkways increases due to the weather, the area is to be cordoned off.	
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
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
Water in ditches and ponds Children falling in	Children and other pedestrians 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

Display items Items falling and striking children	Head or body injuries, depending on the item	3	3	9	• Barriers and 'Do not touch' signs are used where appropriate. • Children are always supervised. • Children are briefed on safety before the activity takes place.		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 First Aid hut near the centre of the village. First Aiders are aware where this is.		4
Out of bounds areas Various potential hazards that are fenced off.	Children injured and other pedestrians	3	3	9	• Children are instructed on site rules at the start of the day. • Areas where access is restricted are barriered off. • Children are constantly supervised. • Children are accompanied if requiring the toilet outside scheduled times.		4
General site Slips and trips	Staff and visitors 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
Guard Duty	Slips, trips and falls and children and adults being injured	3	3	9	• Children are warned of potentially slippery surfaces and are constantly supervised. • The trackway is kept clear of obstacles.	• Preventative measures need implementing if reasonably practicable, rather than just warnings.	6

	Collisions leading to serious head or body injuries	3	2	6	• The 'Charge' drill is closely supervised. • Activity is suspended if children show signs of not listening and following rules.		4
	Play fighting with spears and shields which could lead to contact injuries	3	2	6	• Children are given clear instructions and are always supervised. • There is no actual fighting. • Spears have very blunt tips • Activity is suspended if children show signs of not listening and following rules.		4
Contact with stinging plants and other vegetation or insects	Allergic reactions	3	3	9	• Details of children with significant allergies are passed on by school leaders before the visit. • Children are advised to be careful near stinging plants and are closely supervised.		6
Flour grinding and bread making	Slips, trips and falls within the long house leading to falling injuries	3	3	9	• Children are supervised in the Long House. • Children are informed along with their teachers that running is prohibited.		6
	Crushing injuries when using the quern stone	2	3	6	• Activity is supervised and children are briefed. • Children hold their hands behind their back unless turning the stone. • The handle is removed when flour is being collected.		4
	Allergic reactions to flour	3	3	9	• Allergy sufferers are known in advance. • Children are warned not to put their fingers in their mouth before washing their hands.		6
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
Weaving	Allergy to wool could lead to a reaction	3	3	9	• Information on children with allergies is known in advance.		6

	Use of Carding combs could lead to cuts to hands	2	3	6	• Combs are low risk and use is demonstrated. • Activity is supervised.		4
House talk in Long House	Dark room	3	3	9	• Children are instructed to take care and move slowly.		6
	Open fire	5	3	15	• See fire safety hazard.		4
Raid Collisions leading to serious head or body injuries	Collisions leading to serious head or body injuries	3	2	6	• The activity is supervised. The shield wall is maintained in good order. Communication is maintained with the raider.		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	4	3	12	• Children bring their own packed lunches and schools manage pupils with significant allergies that could be affected by other pupils' food.		4
	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? This would ensure that all children are accounted for regularly.	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 Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 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.	