

CONISBROUGH CASTLE, SOUTH YORKSHIRE

Risk Assessment for education led session

Activity: Meet the Medievals
Site: Conisbrough Castle
Date updated: 23rd March 2015
Review date: 23rd March 2016
Prepared by: Gavin Smithies (Site Manager)

Description and Notes

This risk assessment covers the Meet the Medievals Discovery Visit: It does not cover the walk from the coach/ car park to the site, this information can be found on the hazard information sheet. The activity consists of a 1.5 Discovery Visit.

Hazard	To whom	Initial Risk S x L = R			Control Measures	Risk after controls		
		S	L	R		S	L	R
Delivery and collection vehicles arriving on site near Visitor Centre.	Adults/Pupils/ EH staff	4	2	8	Pupils should be warned of the dangers of vehicle movement and should treat the crossing as a road. Leader to watch out for vehicles.	4	1	4
Trips, slips and falls on grass banks, uneven paths, low stone foundations	Adults/Pupils/ EH staff	3	2	6	We recommend that pupils be supervised at all times and instructed regarding this hazard condition prior to visit. Extra care to be taken in wet and/or windy weather. Verbal warnings are given to escorted groups as appropriate.	3	1	3
Steep drops to either side of castle entrance.	Adults/Pupils/ EH staff	3	2	6	We recommend that pupils be supervised at all times.	3	1	3
Trip and fall hazard on uneven surfaces around the site, on the keep stairs and wooden floors in the keep	Adults/Pupils/ EH staff	3	2	6	We recommend that pupils be supervised at all times and instructed regarding this hazard condition prior to the visit.	3	1	3

					Verbal warnings are given to escorted groups as appropriate.			
Bulky school bags being carried around the Keep can cause falls and over-balancing on stairs.	Adults/Pupils/ EH staff	2	2	4	Castle staff will indicate a safe area where bags may be left in the Visitor Centre. Pupils should be advised before the visit that bags would have to be left unattended.	2	1	2
Low light levels inside the keep requiring time for eyes to adjust when entering from outside at entrance to keep and from roof area.	Adults/Pupils/ EH staff	2	2	4	Escorted groups will be given time to allow their eyes to adjust to varying light levels. We recommend that pupils be supervised at all times.	2	1	2
Occasional/seasonal high winds at the top of the keep.	Adults/Pupils/ EH staff	2	2	4	Castle staff will advise on the day if the risk becomes greater and will restrict access to the top of the keep if necessary.	2	1	2

Risk Assessment Score overall = 4

Risk Assessments for Discovery Visits

Risk assessments are worked out by identifying possible hazards and putting in place measures to significantly reduce the likelihood of the hazard occurring. Once this has been done a simple calculation which multiplies the hazard score for the activity by the chance of it happening gives a risk assessment score. A low score signifies little or no risk; a high score would indicate the activity is potentially dangerous.

Hazard Severity:

1. No risk of injury
2. Slight risk (minor injury requiring first aid)
3. Moderate risk (injury resulting in 3 days off work/school)
4. High risk (resulting in a major injury)
5. Very high risk (causing death or serious injury to an individual)
6. Extremely high risk (causing multiple deaths and widespread destruction)

Multiplied by

Likelihood of Occurrence:

1. Not likely (only under freak conditions)
2. Possible (if other factors are present)
3. Quite possible (if other factors precipitate it)
4. Likely (with other factors or carelessness)
5. Very likely (an accident waiting to happen)
6. Certain

Risk factor of 8 or less: Any activity that scores 8 or under has an acceptable risk factor.

Risk factor between 8 and 12: Any activity scoring between 8 and 12 has a level of risk that may be tolerable but measures must be taken to reduce the risk.

Risk factor of 13 or more: Any activity scoring 13 or more has an unacceptable risk and shouldn't be done.

The numerical scale used is to allow comparisons of risk levels only. No literal meaning is implied by the scoring level.

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