

Scarborough Castle, North Yorkshire

Risk Assessment for Discovery Visit Session

Activity: Royals, Resistance and Rebellion, Key Stages 1-3
 Duration: 75 minutes
 Created: 1 September 2026
 Review date: 1 September 2027
 Prepared by: Learning and Participation Officer (Yorkshire and County Durham)

Description and Notes

This risk assessment covers the Royals, Resistance and Rebellion Discovery Visit from when the group meets the facilitator, to the time when the session ends. It does not cover the walk from the coach/car park to the site or any aspect of your visit outside of the Discovery Visit. This information can be found in the Hazard Information on our [Schools page](#).

It takes place outside (there is no indoor cover if it rains) and involves object handling and walking around different areas of the site.

Hazard	Who is at risk?	Control measures	Risk after controls C x L = R		
Delivery and collection vehicles arriving on site near Visitor Centre.	Leaders, students, EH staff	Students will be warned of the dangers of vehicle movement and will be directed away from the potential hazard area. Leaders and EH staff to watch out for vehicles.	3	1	3
Trips, slips and falls on grass banks, uneven paths, low stone foundations.	Leaders, students, EH staff	Students are supervised at all times by group leaders. Facilitators give instruction regarding this hazard. Verbal warnings are given to groups before the beginning of the session. Facilitators will have received training to identify risks and inform education groups of potential hazards. Extra care to be taken in wet and/or windy weather.	2	1	2
Steep drops around the ditch of the inner bailey.	Leaders, students, EH staff	Students are supervised at all times by group leaders and warned of the potential hazard.	3	1	3
Trip and fall hazard on uneven surfaces around the site, especially on the steps to inner bailey – which are steep and the surface at the top is uneven due to it being part of the wall.	Leaders, students, EH staff	Students are supervised at all times by group leaders and instructed to use the handrail when using the stairs. Students will be informed of the increased slip risk in wet weather.	3	1	3
Cuts, scratches or bruises from handling artefacts.	Leaders, students, EH staff	Students do not handle arrows or sword. Students hold shield and/or helmet under supervision and	2	1	2

		with agreement of school staff.			
Stings or bites from insects.	Leaders, students, EH staff	Students and leaders warned about nature of outdoor site and encouraged to be vigilant.	2	1	2
Cuts or scratches from handling items.	Leaders, students, EH staff	Safe handling of items explained to students before the activity. If pots are broken, they are told not to pick pieces up and leave for EH staff to remove safely. Group leaders supervise each group and EH staff circulate between groups during session.	1	1	1

Risk Assessments for Discovery Visits

Risk = consequence x likelihood in the context of a task i.e. when undertaking this task how bad could it be if it went wrong (almost regardless of whether it would) and what are the chances of it going wrong. They are both qualitative judgements based on objective data.

The Consequence Evaluation

The data you need to evaluate consequence (in the context of the task) are:

- Hazard - the thing with the potential to cause harm.

Consequence is graded on the three point scale where:

- 3 is death or life changing injuries
- 1 is first aid treatable injuries
- 2 is everything else.

The Likelihood Evaluation

Local knowledge/information will help judge the chances of the accident happening. It will include things like:

- Frequency and duration
- Numbers of people, vulnerable people
- The environment the activity is carried out in e.g. inside/outside, time of day, weather, distractions
- Accident/incident history
- Controls/supervision
- The equipment involved and its level of maintenance
- Anything else relevant to the likelihood evaluation.

It is not necessary to try to collect every piece of data that might have an effect on the likelihood; we just need to collect the most important pieces of data.

Likelihood is graded on the English Heritage three point scale where:

- 3 is almost certain to occur
- 1 means we would be surprised if the accident happened
- 2 is everything else.

Risk

Risk is calculated by multiplying the consequence rating by the likelihood rating giving potential risk ratings of:

- High (6 and 9)
- Medium (3 and 4)
- Low (1 and 2).