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| **Risk Assessment** |

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| **Date of Risk Assessment** | 26/02/2025 | **Location**  | Jarrow Hall | **Assessor**  | Corey Lyddon-Hayes |
| **Subject of Assessment** | Jarrow Hall Education – Workshop – Kingdoms and Battles |
| **Description** | A workshop to be carried out under Education staff and school staff supervision. This workshop focuses upon the weapons and armour of the Early Medieval Period and re-enacting a historic battle. Risks involve handling weapons and armour and role play of a battle using pillow swords and plastic shields. |
| **Planned Review Date** Annually unless circumstances change | 26/02/2026 |
| **People affected (individuals or groups)** | School groups (children), School staff, JH education staff and volunteers and the public. |

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| **General Control Measures** |
| * Dynamic Risk Assessments Procedure in place
* Toolbox talk before the activity starts with verbal confirmation from pupils and staff that safety rules/measures have been understood.
* Teachers and Jarrow Hall staff to be in control of handling items and to supervise children whilst holding them.
* Items to be regularly checked for condition and not handled unless they are in a good state of repair.
* Items to be checked on the day of the session to ensure no visible damage.
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| **Hazard** | **Consequences** | **Control Measures** | **Residual Risk with Control Measures in Place** |
| Likelihood (a) | Severity (b) | Residual Risk (a x b) | Rating (low, medium, high) |
| Replica weapon and armour handling | · Lifting heavy equipment· Chance of eye injury· Chance of people getting hit· Injury from dropped item. | * None of the replica items have sharp edges except for the decorative axe which must have leather sheath covering the end of the blade and is no longer used for handling.
* Replica items include: · Blowing horn · Shields · Swords · hand axe · Chain Mail shirt and hood · Seax · 4 helmets – spears – longbow and arrows – large Dane axe
* All visitors must be instructed not to use the weapons for fighting – they are to be looked at and picked up / tried on only.
* For heavy items, always put them down between people rather than passing them around. Instruct handlers on appropriate lifting techniques.
* Weapons and heavy pieces of armour will be sent around the group with an adult who will supervise children whilst they handle the item.
* School staff to assist children trying on helmets – use hat or hood to cover hair to stop chain mail getting caught.
* Each item will be checked prior to the workshop and regularly tested to ensure that they have no visible damage or sharp edges – if they do they will not be used and will be repaired before any further use.
* Ash handled axe – staff to check the axe isn’t loose before use. If it is soak in water and test again before next use.
* Check sword handles for loose hilts and if they are loose do not use and repair with 2 part epoxy resin.
* Longbow is 40ibs draw weight making it extremely difficult for children to draw – however, this item is not to be passed around but shown as part of the session by a member of Jarrow Hall education staff.
* Longbow will be checked before each session to make sure that there are not cracks, spits etc or damage to the string.
 | 1 | 5 | 5 | Low |
| Battle re-enactment | · Chance of people getting hit/injured· Increased chance of people falling over/slipping· Lifting heavy equipment | * Toolbox talk before the activity begins – laying out clear rules and expectations. Remind school staff that they are in charge of discipline.
* Tell participants that they should not run at any time during the activity.
* As part of the activity, children should ‘fight’ in slow motion.
* Soft / plastic toys are used for the re-enactment, not hard or sharp items
* Instruct all re-enactors to aim to hit the shields of their opponents, or their swords with hits to the body not being allowed. All fighting must be controlled and only light pressure. Activity will take place in slow motion.
* Keep shields close to body to avoid injury. Shields are also not weapons and should not be used to hit other participants or clashed against one another.
* Demonstrate safe use of the shield and sword
 | 3 | 2 | 6 | Low |
| Slips, trips and falls | * Chance of injury through falling
* Risk of injury through dropping objects
 | * Children will be told to stand still whilst handling objects, and remain under adult supervision.
* When handling objects, children should be standing in a circle and not moving around.
* During the battle re-enactment, children will be told not to run and only perform actions in slow motion.
* Participants should be wearing sensible shoes to avoid slipping on floors.
* During the summer months, the battle re-enactment may take place outside on the red brick floor surface. Weather/surface conditions should be checked first and if any risk – do activity indoors.
 | 3 | 2 | 6 | Low |
| Replica Maintenance | * Change of injury
 | * Thorough checks of replicas should be done before each session, ensuring no visible damage or sharp points.
* On bladed weapons, the edge should be checked to ensure that there is no damage that could create a sharp edge.
* Weapons with a haft should be checked to ensure that they are tightly fitted.
* Wood should be checked for splinters or cracks.
* Helmets should be checked for sharp edges, or internal damage to leather fittings.
* Any item with damage must immediately be removed from use and stored in the locked chest in Education. This must then be reported to Marco or Corey to take action.
* Metal items should be lightly oiled and cleaned of any rust.
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| **Positive Environmental Impact** |
| N/A |

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| **Negative Environmental Impact** |
| **Description** | **Environmental Controls (if applicable)** | **Justifications** |
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| **Compliance** |
| Any non-compliance with control measures and Groundworks overall approach to Health & Safety by an employee will be subject to disciplinary action. Employees must ensure their own safety and know to remove themselves from the situation if others put them at risk. Any issues / concerns should be immediately reported to  |

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| **Signed (Assessor)** | WCA Lyddon-Hayes | **Date 26/02/2025** |  |

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| **Signed (Agreed by)**  |  | **Date**  |  |

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| **Version Control** |
| **Version** | **Date** | **Reasons** |
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