

Lullingstone Roman Villa, Kent

Risk Assessment for Discovery Visit Session

Activity: Roman Life and Learning from Archaeology Discovery Visit, Key Stages 2-3
 Duration: 90 minutes
 Created: 1 September 2025
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 Prepared by: Learning & Participation Officer (South)

Description and Notes

This risk assessment covers the Roman Life and Learning from Archaeology 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](#).

Hazard	Who is at risk?	Control measures	Risk after controls C x L = R		
Allergic reaction to essential oils: rose, lemongrass, frankincense, pine needle, orange, clove and cinnamon bark.	Leaders, students, EH staff and volunteers	Facilitators are made aware of the risks to inform education groups of potential hazards. All participants are made aware of rules for safe handling. Smelling only, no dabbing on hands or consuming.	2	2	4
Allergic reaction to replica metal strigils.	Leaders, students, EH staff and volunteers	All participants are made aware of rules for safe handling, including not scraping the strigil across bare skin.	2	2	4
Heat burn from hair dryer when displaying movement of heat in a model hypocaust system.	Leaders, students, EH staff and volunteers	All participants are made aware of the rules for safe handling. Facilitator to handle the hair dryer and to test the heat output prior to using.	2	1	2
Skin reaction to the sand during the archaeology activity. Risk of sand getting into eyes.	Leaders, students, EH staff and volunteers	All participants to be made aware prior to handling. Sand is 'play sand' and treated to be safe for children.	2	1	2
Dropping or unsafe handling of objects including ceramics – risk of cuts from broken pottery.	Leaders, students, EH staff and volunteers	All participants are made aware of rules for safe handling. Adults asked to supervise. Objects are checked before the workshop.	1	1	1
Potential fall into villa from the mezzanine.	Leaders, students, EH staff and volunteers	All participants to be made aware during their visit. Students to stay a safe distance from the barriers and are not to lean over the barriers.	3	1	3

Slips, trips and falls when walking around a dark site.	Leaders, students, EH staff and volunteers	All participants to be made aware during their visit. Students to walk carefully and slowly around the site.	2	2	4
Interaction with the general public.	Leaders, students	Students must be supervised by accompanying adults whilst on site and in all public areas accessible by other visitors, such as toilets.	2	1	2

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).