

# Eden Camp Risk Assessment

**EDEN CAMP MODERN HISTORY MUSEUM, MALTON NORTH YORKSHIRE, YO17 6RT – 01653 697777**

**Background:** Eden Camp Modern History Museum has been open as a museum/visitor attraction since 1987 and has been privately run by the Johnson Family during the whole of this period.

**Venue Details:** Eden Camp Modern History Museum is housed in the buildings and grounds of an original Prisoner of War Camp, which was built in 1942 to house Italian and then German/Axis Forces Prisoners of War. The huts have been re-equipped to tell the story of The People's War, the social history of life in Britain from 1939 to 1945 and British military history of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Realistic life size tableaux utilising authentic sounds and smells are utilised to 'transport you back in time'.

Each hut covers a different aspect of the story, starting with the rise of the Nazi Party, Hitler and The Outbreak of War. Other topics include: Rationing, the Utility Scheme, 'Save It' Campaigns, Evacuees, Propaganda, Home Guard, Home Front, The Blitz, Air Raid and Gas Precautions, Animals at War, The Street at War, Women at War, The Land Army and Timber Girls, The Munition Factories, The Observer Corps, The Auxiliary Fire Service, The WVS, The Red Cross, Civil Defence, The Rescue Services, The Bevin Boys, etc.

Other huts have been allocated military themes – War at Sea and U-boats, LDV & The Home Guard, Bomber Command, Path Finders, RE & RAF Bomb Disposal, SOE, Escapers and Evaders, Resistance, Women at War, the life of a Prisoner of War etc. and cover the major battles and events.

One hut (Hut 11) has been dedicated to telling the story of World War One - the 'Great War', whilst another (Hut 13) covers all the conflicts that British military forces have been involved in worldwide since the end of the Second World War: Palestine, Cyprus, Egypt, Suez, Malaya, Korea, Kenya, Aden, The Falklands, The Gulf War, Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan. We believe it to be the most comprehensive exhibition of 20th Century British Military history in the World.

**Visitor Numbers:** Eden Camp receives in the region of 125,000 visitors a year, of whom approximately 30,000 are school children.

**Suitability:** Eden Camp is considered suitable for visitors of all ages and abilities. We have attempted to set all exhibitions and displays at an optimum height so that they can be viewed by able bodied children, adults and visitors in wheelchairs.

All exhibition huts have entry and exit doors and corridors wide enough to allow standard size and configured manual wheelchairs (Class one) and Class two powered wheelchairs/mobility scooters.

There are no steep slopes or steps on our site. Some huts do have a small step-up/threshold on entry doors, but none are above the approved maximum height of dropped kerbs found on public footpaths.

The extensive use of sound and smell effects in our exhibition huts provides an added level of interaction and stimulus for visitors with visual or audio impairments.

There is a dedicated male disabled toilet cubicle in the Gents end of our main toilet block (Hut 14) and a unisex disabled cubicle in the vestibule of the entrance to the ladies toilets.

**This Risk Assessment provides a general introduction and guide covering the main elements and activities associated with a visit to our site. Group leaders of schools/young peoples groups are encouraged to carry out a pre-visit and conduct their own risk assessment which identifies and takes into account the specific needs and abilities of their individual group members. (For this purpose, we provide a complementary pre-visit for group leaders who have booked a visit with us.)**

**First Aid provision:** First Aid treatment and equipment should, in the first instance, be the responsibility of teachers/group supervisors, and details regarding specific medical conditions and issues (i.e. allergies) and medication should be recorded about each member of the group prior to a visit. A number of our staff are formally trained in First Aid and we can normally provide help and support if required. We rely on you to keep us informed of any potential problems if First Aid is required. Staff contact points for First Aid are the Gift Shop (Hut 15), the Café (Hut 16), the Reception Office at the entrance to our site, or any member of staff carrying a two-way radio.

The nearest minor injuries facility is Malton Hospital, Maiden Greve, Malton, North Yorkshire, YO17 7NG Tel:01653 693041

## **Key to Assessment Table**


**Low = highly unlikely/ harm level low      Medium = Unlikely/ harm level medium      High = likely/harm level high**

HAZARD	LIKELIHOOD	SEVERITY	RISK SEVERITY	CONTROL MEASURES	RISK
<p><b>Descending from coach / minibus and entering the museum.</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Segregation of traffic and pedestrians is maintained and controlled wherever possible. Traffic is marshalled, defined parking areas are used and speed limits enforced. Teachers and group supervisors should ensure that children/young people are closely supervised when in the coach park area. It is imperative that teachers/supervisors ensure that children getting off and on buses and coaches are moved as orderly and quickly as possible away from the immediate parking and transit area, using the Zebra crossing marked pedestrian walkways.</p> <p><b>Children should not be counted or sorted into groups in the middle of the coach park.</b> This should be done either on the path/walkway area in front of the Prefab and the back of Huts 20 &amp; 21, on the pathway between huts 17 &amp; 19 and Huts 20,21 &amp; 22, inside Mess Huts 1, 2 and 3, or on the car parking area in front of Mess Hut 3.</p> <p>It is also recommended that schools heading from the coach park to Huts 1 to 5 do so by using the walkways between Huts 19 &amp; 20 and Hut 20 and the Prefab, rather than walking round via the main Car Parks.</p>	<p>Medium</p>

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<p><b>Descending from coach / minibus and entering the museum.</b> (continued)</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>This is also the quickest way to reach our main toilet block – Hut 14 which we request that all schools use (School groups are asked not to use the limited toilet facilities in the Cafe). Pupils should be supervised whilst using toilet and handwash facilities.</p>	<p>Medium</p>
<p><b>Stranger Danger / Lost children</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Teachers/Group leaders are responsible for the close supervision of pupils and young people at all times. We provide free staff places on a ratio of 1 adult per 5 children to ensure adequate supervision. We request a minimum supervisory ratio of 1 adult per 10 children. Schools are encouraged to divide their total group into small manageable groups and to start their tour at different points around our site. This helps to prevent crowding in any one particular hut at any one time. Regular headcounts are also recommended.</p> <p>Good starting places for individual groups are any of the first 5 huts (Huts 1 to 5). Hut 10 is also a good place to start a tour as it covers the life of Eden Camp when it was a Prisoner of War Camp (to provide some historical context regarding our site, its buildings and World War Two). Groups starting at 10 should then return to Hut 1 and visit remaining huts in numerical order.</p>	<p>Low</p>

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<p><b>Stanger Danger / Lost children</b> (continued)</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Similarly, Hut 11 can be used as a starting point as it covers World War One (The conclusion and repercussions of which ultimately resulted in Hitler's rise to power and the cause of WWII) and then return to Hut 1 to visit huts in numerical order.</p> <p>If pupils become separated from their group, or teachers/supervisors find that they have lost a child, they should report to Hut 15 the Gift Shop, or contact a member of the museum staff.</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p><b>Slipping, tripping, falling</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Teachers should inform parents that suitable footwear and clothing should be worn when visiting our site. All walkways and paths are level, although there are slightly raised thresholds on the entrances and exits of all huts. There are no steps to ascend or descend within the museum. Some of the entrances to the huts have a slight slope ascending to the doorway, and then a slight slope descending once inside. The Dunkirk reconstruction within Hut 24 has a steeper ascent and descent.</p> <p>Please keep to the concrete paths and certainly do not cross grassed areas between the huts in poor weather.</p>	<p>Low</p>

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<p><b>Slipping, tripping, falling in relation to Junior Assault Course.</b></p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>The junior assault course has been designed to offer an exciting and stimulating area for children up to the age of 12 to explore and play. As a result, the likelihood of children having trips, bumps and knocks is always a possibility. Group leaders should make a decision whether to restrict access to the play area or arrange adequate supervision as necessary.</p> <p>Signs are present asking adults to supervise children at all times and the whole area is closed off when it is deemed by museum staff to be too wet or slippery.</p> <p>The area is regularly checked to ensure that all structures are in sound order. Any required maintenance work is carried out as soon as it is reported. There is a separate Tiny Tots play area which is designed and intended for children up to the age of 5.</p> <p>If any defects are found whilst using the area, please report it/them to a member of museum staff.</p>	<p>Medium</p>

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<b>Unruly children</b>	Low	Low	Low	<p>Pupils/young people should be supervised at all times by teachers / group leaders. <u>This includes whilst using the toilet and handwashing facilities in Hut 14.</u></p> <p>Whilst the exhibition huts may be viewed in any order, pupils should observe the  (No Entry) signs and only enter each hut by the designated entry.</p> <p>Pupils should refrain from shouting, screaming and running, and it should be stressed that there will be other visitors on site and in the exhibition huts not as agile or able bodied as themselves. Older visitors may also be emotional as a result of re-living the events of the war and remembering family members and loved ones who were killed.</p> <p>Pupils and young people found to be unsupervised and not obeying requests to behave and treat our site with the respect that it deserves will be asked to return to their coach until the rest of their party has completed their visit.</p>	Low
<b>Strobe Lighting</b>	Low	Medium	Low	A number of the exhibition huts contain flashing and intermittent lighting effects. We do not consider these to be of the same intensity or frequency as 'strobe'	Low

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<b>Strobe lighting</b> (continued)	Low	Medium	Low	lighting. Huts which contain the most significant lighting effects are Huts 4,5,11,13, and 21. (intermittent and randomly timed low-level flashes).	Low
<b>Equipment open to view and touch</b>	Low	Low	Low	Ensure pupils/young people are supervised at all times. Do not allow them to touch or climb on any vehicles or machinery displaying 'Please Keep Off' signs, or climb upon or cross any fence or barrier. Common sense with regards to numbers of children 'exploring' items of equipment through touch and climbing should also be used.	Low
<b>Out of bound areas</b>	Low	Medium	Medium	Any potentially dangerous areas on site where, for example, chemicals are stored or maintenance work is carried out are kept locked wherever possible. Where regular access by museum staff is required, these areas are fenced or cordoned off and clearly marked with warning signs.	Low
<b>Fire</b>	Low	High	Medium	Fire Risk Assessments have been undertaken for every building and areas on site. They are checked and revised, where necessary, on a regular basis.  As many of our exhibition huts contain special effects that include smoke, smells and warning sounds (e.g. sirens, bells,)	Low



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Fire (continued)	Low	High	Medium	<p>there are no automated fire detection alarms or flashing coloured light notification systems in our exhibition huts. (There is an automated system in our Café and Bar: Huts 16,17, &amp; 19 and call points for raising an audible alarm electronically in Huts 6, 12 and the Heritage Hall).</p> <p>Fire Action notices are displayed in each hut. If you discover a fire, raise the alarm by shouting an audible warning such as “Fire! Get out of the building!” and follow the green Running Man signs, (which will be illuminated by the emergency lighting in each hut should the main electricity fail as a result of fire), to get to the nearest exit.</p> <p>If you hear an alarm being shouted, follow the green Running Man signs which will guide you to the nearest exit.</p> <p>Museum staff will be on hand to co-ordinate an evacuation and their instructions should be followed.</p> <p>The main fire assembly point for the museum is located in the Coach/ minibus park area, adjacent to Mess Hut 1.</p>	Low

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<b>Terrorist Threat / Attack</b>	Low	High	Medium	<p>If an incident occurs, RHT (Run, Hide and Tell). Consider the safest options and escape if you can. Is there a safe route? If not hide. If you can see the attacker, they can see you. Stay away from windows and doors. Stay quiet.</p> <p>If you are able to close and barricade doors do so but ensure that you don't become trapped. Tell the Police by calling 999. They will ask you questions such as 'What is your location?', 'Where did you last see the suspect(s)?' and 'What do they look like (description)?' They may ask for further information like how many casualties, types of injury etc.</p> <p>If you cannot speak or make a noise, listen to the instructions given to you by the call taker.</p>	Low