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Method Statement & Risk Assessment

Bricklaying — Domestic Rear Extension

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METHOD STATEMENT & RISK ASSESSMENT

Bricklaying Works — Single-Storey Domestic Rear Extension

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Project Title:	Single-Storey Domestic Rear Extension — Bricklaying Works
Project Address:	[Insert Full Site Address]
Client:	[Insert Client Name] — Domestic Client
Principal Contractor:	[Insert Company Name]
Supervisor / Foreman:	[Insert Name]
Operatives:	2-Person Crew
Document Author:	[Insert Name & Position]
Reviewed By:	[Insert Name]
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> ***CDM 2015 Notice:*** *This project involves a domestic client as defined under the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015. Where no Principal Designer has been formally appointed, the Principal Contractor assumes the duties of the Principal Designer by default. This Method Statement forms part of the Construction Phase Plan for this project.*

SECTION 1 — DOCUMENT SCOPE & PURPOSE

1.1 Purpose

This Method Statement and Risk Assessment (RAMS) document has been prepared to define the safe system of work for bricklaying operations associated with the construction of a single-storey domestic rear extension. It is intended to:

- Provide a clear, step-by-step sequence of operations for all operatives involved
- Identify significant hazards associated with the works
- Define control measures to eliminate or reduce risk to an acceptable level
- Comply with applicable UK health, safety and welfare legislation
- Form part of the Construction Phase Plan under CDM 2015

1.2 Scope of Works

The scope covered by this document is limited to the following bricklaying activities:

- Setting out and establishing datum levels from agreed reference points
- Construction of cavity walls comprising an outer leaf of facing brick, cavity with partial-fill rigid insulation boards, and an inner leaf of standard blockwork
- Laying of wall ties at specified centres in accordance with the specification
- Building in of lintels over openings (window and door positions as shown on drawings)
- Construction to wall plate level, including bed joint for wall plate
- Forming of any step-down detail at the junction with the existing structure
- Pointing and jointing of external face brickwork as the work proceeds
- Making good at junction with existing rear wall of the dwelling
- General housekeeping and material management on site

The following works are EXCLUDED from this document and are covered under separate RAMS:

- Scaffold erection and dismantling (covered by scaffold contractor's RAMS)
- Excavation and foundation works
- Concrete and reinforcement works
- Roof structure, covering and drainage
- Internal finishes and services

1.3 Applicable Legislation, Standards & Guidance

Reference	Title
CDM 2015	Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015
HSWA 1974	Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
MHSWR 1999	Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
PUWER 1998	Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998
LOLER 1998	Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998
COSHH 2002	Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002
WAHR 2005	Work at Height Regulations 2005
Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992	Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992
BS EN 1996-1-1	Eurocode 6 — Design of Masonry Structures
BS 5628	Code of Practice for the Use of Masonry (reference standard)
BS EN 771	Specification for Masonry Units
HSE CIS69	Control of Exposure to Silica Dust in Construction
HSE CIS36	Cement and You
HSE INDG258	Safe Use of Ladders and Stepladders

SECTION 2 — SITE INFORMATION & CONSTRAINTS

2.1 Site Description

Item	Detail
Location	Domestic rear garden, suburban street, UK
Access	Via side gate / passage of the property (confirm width for material delivery)
Ground Conditions	Firm, level domestic garden. Foundations assumed complete and inspected
Proximity to Boundaries	As shown on approved drawings — confirm with drawings prior to commencement
Overhead Hazards	Check for overhead services / cables prior to any deliveries or scaffold erection
Underground Services	[Insert — confirm from service drawings or trial holes]
Public Interface	Rear garden — limited public access. Advise client to restrict access
Neighbouring Properties	Adjacent properties to [left / right / rear] — maintain good neighbourly relations, minimise noise and dust during agreed working hours
Working Hours	08:00–17:00 Monday to Friday. 08:00–13:00 Saturday. No Sunday or Bank Holiday working without prior agreement

2.2 Weather Considerations

• Works are planned for **mild weather conditions**. Bricklaying shall not proceed when:

• Air or ground temperature is at or below **3°C** (or forecast to fall below 3°C within 24 hours)

• Rainfall is heavy enough to wash cement from mortar before it sets

• Wind speed creates a safety risk to operatives working at height

• In marginal conditions, the Supervisor shall assess suitability before work commences

• Newly laid brickwork shall be protected from frost and heavy rain using **hessian and polythene sheeting** at the end of each working day

• No bricklaying above **1200mm per day** per leaf on any single lift to allow mortar to achieve sufficient strength before loading

2.3 Emergency Services

• **Nearest A&E Hospital:** [Insert name and address]

• **Site Emergency Contact:** [Insert Supervisor name and mobile number]

• **Client Emergency Contact:** [Insert name and number]

• **Emergency Services:** 999 (Police / Fire / Ambulance)

• **Non-Emergency NHS:** 111

- **Site Address for Emergency Services:** [Insert full address including postcode]

SECTION 3 — PERSONNEL, COMPETENCE & SUPERVISION

3.1 Personnel

Role	Name	Qualification / Competence
Supervisor / Lead Bricklayer	[Insert]	NVQ Level 3 Bricklaying, CSCS Gold Card, First Aid at Work
Bricklayer / Labourer	[Insert]	NVQ Level 2 Bricklaying / CSCS Card
Principal Contractor Representative	[Insert]	[Insert]

3.2 Competence Requirements

All operatives must, before commencing work:

- Hold a valid **CSCS card** appropriate to their role
- Have read, understood and **signed this RAMS document**
- Have attended a site-specific **induction** (see Section 3.3)
- Be physically fit and capable of undertaking the manual handling requirements of the role
- Have received training in or be familiar with **COSHH** requirements for cement and silica dust

3.3 Site Induction

A site-specific induction shall be delivered to all operatives before work commences. The induction shall cover as a minimum:

- [ ] Site rules and working hours
- [ ] Location of first aid kit and nearest hospital
- [ ] Emergency evacuation procedure and assembly point ([Insert location, e.g. front of property / street])
- [ ] Location of welfare facilities
- [ ] Significant hazards identified in this RAMS
- [ ] PPE requirements
- [ ] Reporting of accidents, near misses and dangerous occurrences
- [ ] Environmental responsibilities — dust, noise and waste management
- [ ] No-go areas and client property protection requirements
- [ ] Scaffold inspection confirmation

Induction records shall be signed and retained on site.

SECTION 4 — PLANT, EQUIPMENT & TOOLS

4.1 Major Plant & Equipment

Item	Purpose	Inspection Requirement
Hydraulic/Electric Hoist or Gin Wheel (if used)	Raising mortar/bricks to scaffold level	LOLER inspection prior to use. Operator competence required
Electric Mortar Mixer	Mixing mortar on ground level	PUWER pre-use check. PAT tested. RCD protected
Angle Grinder (if required for cutting)	Cutting bricks / blocks to size	PUWER pre-use check. PAT tested. RCD protected. Guard in place
Scaffold (pre-erected)	Working platform at height	Inspected and certified by scaffold contractor. Weekly inspection thereafter
Scaffold boards	Working platforms on scaffold	Inspect for defects, splits, damage before each use

4.2 Hand Tools & Small Equipment

Item	Notes
Brick trowels (pointing and laying)	Inspect handles for cracks/damage
Bolster chisels and club hammer	Use with appropriate PPE — eye and hand protection
Spirit levels (various — 600mm, 1800mm)	Check calibration / accuracy regularly
Gauge rod (storey rod)	Set up from datum prior to commencement
Line and pins	Inspect pins for bends/damage
Corner blocks / profiles	Ensure secure fixing before use
Tape measures	[Standard]
Rubber mallet	[Standard]
Jointing iron / bucket handle	[Standard]
Raking-out tool	[Standard]
Spot boards	Clean before use
Buckets and tubs	[Standard]
Wheelbarrow	Check tyre pressure and frame integrity
Knee pads	See PPE section
Cutting bench (if used with angle grinder)	Stable, fixed surface

4.3 Electrical Equipment Requirements

- All 110V or 230V electrical equipment shall be:
- Used with a **Residual Current Device (RCD)**
- **PAT tested** and within test date
- Visually inspected by the operative before each use

- 110V centre-tapped-to-earth (CTE) supply preferred where practicable
- **No damaged leads, plugs or casing** shall be used under any circumstances
- Defective equipment shall be removed from service immediately and tagged out of use

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SECTION 5 — MATERIALS

5.1 Materials Schedule

Material	Specification	Supplier	Storage Requirements
Facing Bricks	[Insert brick type, BS EN 771-1, frost resistant FR if specified]	[Insert]	Stored on pallets, off ground, covered when not in use
Blockwork (inner leaf)	Typical 100mm dense or lightweight aggregate block to BS EN 771-3	[Insert]	Stacked flat on pallets, covered
Cement	Portland Cement to BS EN 197-1 or masonry cement	[Insert]	Stored in dry conditions in original bags. Opened bags used promptly
Sand	Sharp / building sand to BS EN 13139	[Insert]	Delivered loose or bagged, stored on clean hardstanding, covered from rain/contamination
Cavity Wall Insulation	Partial-fill rigid insulation board (e.g. Kingspan/Celotex or equivalent) to BS EN 13162/13165	[Insert]	Stored flat, off ground, protected from moisture and sunlight. Do not compress or fold
Wall Ties	Stainless steel to BS EN 845-1. Type to suit cavity width and exposure zone	[Insert]	Store in dry conditions in original packaging
Lintels	As specified on structural drawings (steel or proprietary concrete)	[Insert]	Store on level ground, off ground on bearers. Do not overturn or damage
Damp Proof Course (DPC)	300mm or as specified — polythene/bitumen type	[Insert]	Store away from sunlight. Handle carefully to avoid tears
Mortar Plasticiser	As specified. Use strictly in accordance with manufacturer's dosage instructions	[Insert]	Store in original container away from frost
Water	Clean, potable water for mixing	Mains supply on site	—

5.2 Mortar Specification

- Mix to be confirmed by specification, typically **1:1:5.5 (cement:lime:sand)** or **1:4 to 1:6 (masonry cement:sand)** depending on exposure and brick type

• Mixed mortar to be used within **2 hours of mixing** in mild conditions. Discard any mortar that has begun to stiffen

• **Do not re-temper mortar** by adding additional water once mixing is complete

• Spot boards to be kept clean and mortar turned regularly to maintain workability

5.3 COSHH Summary for Key Materials

Substance	Hazard	Control Measure	COSHH Assessment Reference
Cement / mortar	Skin burns, dermatitis, respiratory irritant. Contains Chromium VI	Waterproof gloves, barrier cream, alkaline-resistant eye protection. Wash skin thoroughly. See COSHH-001	COSHH-001
Silica dust (from cutting bricks/blocks)	Silicosis — serious lung disease (long-latency irreversible condition)	Wet cutting preferred. Use dust suppression. FFP3 RPE when dry cutting. Minimise cutting operations. See CIS69	COSHH-002
Insulation board fibres	Minor skin, eye and respiratory irritation	Gloves, safety glasses, dust mask (FFP1 minimum) when cutting	COSHH-003
Mortar plasticiser	Skin and eye irritant	Gloves, eye protection when handling concentrate	COSHH-004

> *Full COSHH assessments are held separately and available on site at all times. Operatives must be briefed on COSHH requirements before handling any of the above substances.*

SECTION 6 — PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

PPE is provided as a **last resort** control measure after engineering and procedural controls have been applied. The following PPE is mandatory on this site at all times during bricklaying operations:

6.1 Mandatory PPE — All Operatives at All Times

PPE Item	Standard / Specification	Reason
Safety Helmet	BS EN 397 — hard hat	Falling objects from scaffold / overhead work
High-Visibility Vest / Jacket	BS EN ISO 20471 Class 2 minimum	Visibility — delivery vehicles, plant operations
Safety Footwear	BS EN ISO 20345 (S1P minimum, S3 preferred)	Dropped materials, manual handling, ground hazards
Waterproof / Chemical Resistant Gloves	EN 374 — alkali resistant	Cement contact — dermatitis and chemical burns

6.2 Task-Specific PPE

Task	Additional PPE Required	Standard
All bricklaying and mortar work	Safety glasses / goggles (mortar splatter)	BS EN 166
Cutting bricks / blocks with angle grinder	FFP3 Dust Mask, Face shield over safety glasses, Hearing protection (earmuffs EN 352 or earplugs EN 352-2)	As specified
Wet cutting with disc cutter	Waterproof over-trousers, face shield, ear protection	—
Handling insulation boards	Gloves (general purpose), safety glasses, FFP1 dust mask	BS EN 149
Working at kneeling height	Knee pads (embedded or strap-on)	—
Mixing cement / mortar	Safety glasses, chemical resistant gloves, dust mask (FFP2)	BS EN 149
Manual handling of lintels	Safety boots (toe protection), gloves, team lift / mechanical assist	—
Working on scaffold at height	No additional PPE beyond mandatory, but scaffold edge protection must be in place	WAHR 2005

6.3 PPE Responsibilities

- The **Principal Contractor** shall provide all mandatory PPE free of charge
- Operatives shall **inspect PPE before each use** and report defects immediately
- Damaged or expired PPE shall be **replaced immediately**
- PPE shall be **maintained, stored and cleaned** in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- The wearing of PPE on site is **not optional** — failure to comply may result in removal from site

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SECTION 7 — SEQUENCE OF OPERATIONS

The following sequence represents the intended order of bricklaying operations. The Supervisor shall confirm each stage is complete and satisfactory before progressing to the next.

STAGE 1 — Pre-Commencement Checks

Before any bricklaying begins, the following must be confirmed:

- [ ] **Building Regulations approval** obtained and copies available on site
- [ ] **Approved drawings** on site and reviewed by Supervisor
- [ ] **Foundation inspection** completed and passed by Building Control inspector
- [ ] **Scaffold inspected** and formal handover received from scaffold contractor. Written scaffold inspection certificate available on site
- [ ] **Site induction** completed and signed by all operatives

• [ ] **RAMS** briefed and signed by all operatives

• [ ] **COSHH assessments** briefed

• [ ] **First aid kit** located and stocked. [Insert location]

• [ ] **Welfare facilities** available and serviceable (toilet, hand washing, drinking water, rest area)

• [ ] **Materials** delivered, inspected for damage and stored correctly

• [ ] **Electrical equipment** PAT tested, RCD protection in place

• [ ] **Emergency contact numbers** posted at site welfare area

• [ ] Client advised of working hours and site rules

• [ ] Access route to rear cleared — sufficient width for materials and wheelbarrow

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STAGE 2 — Setting Out

1. Confirm **datum level** from agreed benchmark (typically finished floor level (FFL) or existing DPC as directed by drawings)

2. Set up **storey/gauge rod** marked with brick and joint dimensions (typically 75mm brick + 10mm joint = 85mm course height)

3. **Check foundation dimensions** for accuracy against approved drawings — length, width and squareness (diagonal checks)

4. Mark out **wall positions** on foundation using chalk line or pencil and straightedge

5. Mark **window and door openings** positions clearly with chalk

6. Set up **profile boards or corner profiles** at each corner to maintain line and level

7. **Dry bond** first course (lay bricks without mortar) to check bond pattern, minimise cutting, and confirm opening positions

8. Raise any queries or discrepancies with the Principal Contractor representative **before mortar is laid**

STAGE 3 — DPC and First Lift (Ground Level to Scaffold Lift 1)

> ***Working height for this stage:*** *Ground level. No scaffold access required for initial courses. Scaffold to be used when wall height requires.*

3.1 DPC Installation

1. Ensure foundation surface is **level, clean and free from debris, ice and standing water**

2. Bed a **levelling course** of mortar on the foundation, bringing to a consistent level if required

3. Lay **Damp Proof Course (DPC)** in a continuous strip across the full width of each wall leaf. Overlap DPC at corners and joints by a minimum of **150mm**. Lap at joints to be staggered

4. Ensure DPC is at the correct height — minimum **150mm above finished external ground level** in accordance with Building Regulations Part C

5. Do not puncture or tear DPC during subsequent bricklaying. Inspect periodically

3.2 Laying the Outer Brick Leaf

1. Lay **first course of facing bricks** in English, Flemish or stretcher bond as specified, bedded on **full bed of mortar** directly onto DPC
2. Check **level** in two directions, **plumb** with spirit level, and **line** using line and pins
3. Raise **corners first** — typically 4–6 courses of raking back brickwork at each corner to maintain accuracy
4. Run **line and pins** along each course between corners for intermediate bricks
5. Maintain consistent **joint thickness** — 10mm nominal bed joint and perpend (cross joint)
6. Regularly check **gauge** against storey rod
7. **Rake out perpends and bed joints** to the specified joint profile (struck, bucket handle, flush etc.) as work proceeds. Do not allow mortar to harden before jointing

3.3 Wall Ties

1. Install **stainless steel wall ties** at a maximum of **900mm horizontal centres and 450mm vertical centres** in the field of the wall (or as specified). This equates to every fourth course (at 75mm brick + 10mm joint = 85mm = 4 courses ≈ 340mm, adjust to nearest equivalent course or as BS EN 845-1 and drawing require)
2. At **openings and corners**, reduce spacing to **300mm vertical centres within 225mm** of any opening or corner
3. Ties to be laid with a **slight downward slope towards the outer leaf** to allow any moisture to drain outward, or as manufacturer's recommendation
4. Ensure ties are **clear of mortar droppings** — use a cavity batten to prevent mortar bridging the cavity

3.4 Inner Blockwork Leaf

1. Lay **inner leaf blockwork** in running bond, maintaining consistent course height to match tie positions
2. Keep inner and outer leaf roughly **level with each other** — do not allow one leaf to get more than **1.0m ahead** of the other
3. Check plumb and level as work proceeds

3.5 Cavity Insulation

1. Install **partial-fill rigid insulation boards** against the inner leaf as the work rises. Boards to be held in place with purpose-made insulation retaining clips fixed to wall ties
2. Ensure boards are **tight-butting** with no gaps at joints
3. Stagger vertical joints of insulation boards
4. Maintain a **clear residual cavity** of minimum **50mm** (or as specified) between the insulation board face and the outer leaf
5. Use **cavity battens** resting on wall ties below to keep cavity clear of mortar droppings. Raise batten on ties as work progresses — do not leave mortar droppings in cavity

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STAGE 4 — Lintel Installation

> ***Note:*** *Lintel installation involves heavy manual handling and working with elements at height. A* ***two-person lift*** *is required as a minimum for all lintel operations. Mechanical assistance should be considered for lintels exceeding recommended manual handling limits.*

1. When the wall reaches the **underside of lintel level**, confirm the correct lintel has been delivered and matches the specification for the opening

2. Check **lintel type, length and load capacity** against structural drawings and engineer's specification

3. Confirm **minimum bearing lengths** — typically **150mm minimum each end** for standard domestic spans (confirm with drawings)

4. Build up **supporting brickwork** either side of opening to lintel bearing height. Allow mortar to set before loading

5. **Two operatives** to lift lintel into position. Confirm safe lifting plan — use scaffold platform for stability where possible. Use mechanical hoist if lintel exceeds safe manual handling weight

6. Bed lintel on **full bed of mortar** on both bearing surfaces. Check level

7. For **cavity lintels**, ensure the correct product is used (combined inner and outer leaf lintel, or separate inner/outer with integral DPC flashing). Install **cavity tray** and **stop ends** above lintels as specified, with weep holes at base of cavity tray at **450mm centres maximum**

8. Continue bricklaying over lintel, distributing load evenly

9. Do **not** remove any temporary supports to adjacent areas until mortar has achieved adequate strength — minimum **24–48 hours**

STAGE 5 — Working on Scaffold (Upper Lifts)

> *All work at height shall be carried out in accordance with the* ***Work at Height Regulations 2005****. The scaffold has been erected by a competent scaffold contractor and handed over with a formal inspection certificate.*

Before each session working on scaffold:

• [ ] Visually inspect scaffold — look for missing boards, damaged guardrails, unsecured ledgers, damage from overnight weather or unauthorised access

• [ ] Report any concerns to the Supervisor before commencing work. **Do not use scaffold if any doubt exists about its safety**

• [ ] Confirm working platforms are fully boarded — no gaps greater than **25mm** between boards

• [ ] Confirm **double guardrail** (top rail at minimum 950mm, intermediate rail) and **100mm minimum toe board** are in place

• [ ] Do **not** overload scaffold — confirm safe working load (SWL) with scaffold contractor. Typically 2.0 kN/m² (medium duty) for bricklaying. Do not concentrate material loads

• [ ] Use only designated **access ladders** — do not climb the scaffold frame

• [ ] Ensure **ladder is secured** top and bottom, extends **1.0m above stepping off point** and is set at the correct **1:4 angle**

• [ ] Keep scaffold platform clear of waste and excess materials

• [ ] **Never reach beyond the guardrail** — reposition scaffold if required

Bricklaying from Scaffold Platform:

1. Transfer materials to scaffold level using the electric hoist or gin wheel (if provided) — LOLER requirements apply. Do not overload hoist

2. Where hoist is not available, **two-person carry** of materials to scaffold level using access ladder — maximum safe load per operative per trip as assessed

3. Continue **bricklaying operations** as described in Stage 3, ensuring line and level are maintained from profiles

4. Where working at the **top of the wall** (close to wall plate level), take particular care to maintain stability — keep centre of gravity low and do not overreach

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STAGE 6 — Wall Plate Level

1. When the wall reaches the specified wall plate level, confirm **final height** against the storey rod and drawings

2. Lay a **full bed of mortar** across the top of the inner blockwork leaf to provide an even bearing surface for the wall plate

3. Build any **stepped courses** at the junction with existing building as shown on drawings

4. **Do not install the wall plate** (timber) under the scope of this document unless separately addressed — this is typically within the scope of the carpentry RAMS

5. On completion of the inner leaf top course, protect the wall top with polythene sheeting until the wall plate is installed

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STAGE 7 — Junction with Existing Building

1. Before commencing work at the existing wall junction, confirm **location of any existing services** within or immediately adjacent to the existing wall — gas, electricity, water, drainage

2. Where brickwork is to be **toothed into the existing wall** (as specified), carefully rake out mortar joints to a minimum **50mm depth** and insert new bricks, ensuring mortar fully fills the space

3. Where a **movement joint / control joint** is specified (in lieu of toothing), install mastic sealant and backing rod to the joint profile specified

4. Ensure DPC is **lapped and sealed** at the junction with any existing DPC

5. Make good any damage to the existing structure caused by the works

6. Protect existing finishes, glazing and features of the existing building during all works

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STAGE 8 — Completion, Cleaning & Handover

1. Check all brickwork is **plumb, level and true** to line. Raise any defects with the Principal Contractor representative

2. **Clean down** brickwork faces — remove mortar splatter and staining using appropriate cleaning methods. Avoid acid cleaning without specialist advice and appropriate controls

3. Remove all **waste materials, mortar droppings, cut brick offcuts and packaging** from site. Segregate waste where practicable (brick waste / general waste). Dispose of in accordance with the Duty of Care (Environmental Protection Act 1990)

4. **Protect completed brickwork** — ensure polythene and hessian is securely in place to protect against rain and any risk of overnight frost

5. Conduct a **joint inspection** with the Principal Contractor to confirm works are complete and to the required standard

6. Notify Building Control for **stage inspection** as required

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SECTION 8 — RISK ASSESSMENT

The following risk assessment covers significant hazards associated with the bricklaying works described. Residual risk ratings are provided **after control measures are applied**.

Risk Rating Matrix:

Likelihood \ Severity	Slight (1)	Moderate (2)	Severe (3)
Unlikely (1)	1 — Trivial	2 — Low	3 — Medium
Possible (2)	2 — Low	4 — Medium	6 — High
Likely (3)	3 — Medium	6 — High	9 — Very High

Risk Rating Key: 1–2 = Trivial/Low (acceptable) | 3–4 = Medium (monitor / review) | 6+ = High (significant control required before proceeding)

Risk Assessment Table

Ref: RA01 · **Hazard: Falls from height — scaffold** · **Who is at Risk:** Bricklayers · **Likelihood (L):** 2 · **Severity (S):** 3 · **Initial Risk (LxS): 6 — HIGH** · **Control Measures:** • Scaffold erected and handed over by competent contractor • Scaffold inspection certificate on site • Daily pre-use visual inspection by Supervisor • Full boarding, double guardrail and toe boards in place • Only access via designated ladder secured at top and bottom • Operatives not to climb or alter scaffold framework • No work on scaffold in high winds (>17mph / Beaufort Force 5) or icy conditions • Scaffold inspected weekly and after adverse weather (WAHR 2005 Schedule 7) · **Residual L:** 1 · **Residual S:** 3 · **Residual Risk: 3 — MEDIUM** · **Action By:** Supervisor

Ref: RA02 · **Hazard: Falls from height — ladder access** · **Who is at Risk:** Bricklayers · **Likelihood (L):** 2 · **Severity (S):** 3 · **Initial Risk (LxS): 6 — HIGH** · **Control Measures:** • Ladders of adequate length — extending 1.0m above stepping off point • Ladder secured at top and foot • Correct angle (1:4 — 75° approximately) • Only one person on ladder at a time • No materials carried that impair grip or balance — use hoist for materials • Operatives to maintain three points of contact • Ladders inspected pre-use and regularly. Defective ladders removed from site · **Residual L:** 1 · **Residual S:** 3 · **Residual Risk: 3 — MEDIUM** ·

Action By: Supervisor

Ref: RA03 · **Hazard: Struck by falling objects — bricks, tools, mortar** · **Who is at Risk:** Bricklayers, Client, Public · **Likelihood (L):** 2 · **Severity (S):** 3 · **Initial Risk (LxS): 6 — HIGH** · **Control Measures:** • Hard hats mandatory for all on site • Scaffold toe boards minimum 100mm in place • Brick guards / debris netting on scaffold if close to boundary or public areas • No materials stored within 300mm of scaffold edge • Tools secured or tethered where practicable • Client family members, pets and members of the public excluded from work zone • Bricklaying area demarcated clearly with barrier tape · **Residual L:** 1 · **Residual S:** 3 · **Residual Risk: 3 — MEDIUM** · **Action By:** Supervisor

Ref: RA04 · **Hazard: Manual handling — bricks, blocks, bags of cement, lintels** · **Who is at Risk:** Bricklayers · **Likelihood (L):** 3 · **Severity (S):** 2 · **Initial Risk (LxS): 6 — HIGH** · **Control Measures:** • Manual Handling assessment conducted — eliminate / reduce where possible • Bricks delivered to working area on pallets and by pallet truck where access allows • Mortar mixer used — do not hand-mix large quantities • Hoist or gin wheel for raising materials to scaffold level where provided • Two-person lifts for lintels and heavy items — plan lift before commencing • Cement bags split to half-fill where feasible • Knee pads worn during low-level work • Operatives trained in safe manual handling techniques • Breaks included in work schedule · **Residual L:** 2 · **Residual S:** 2 · **Residual Risk: 4 — MEDIUM** · **Action By:** All operatives

Ref: RA05 · **Hazard: Skin burns and dermatitis — cement / mortar contact** · **Who is at Risk:** Bricklayers · **Likelihood (L):** 3 · **Severity (S):** 2 · **Initial Risk (LxS): 6 — HIGH** · **Control Measures:** • COSHH assessment available on site (COSHH-001) • Waterproof, alkali-resistant gloves worn at ALL times when handling mortar or cement • Barrier cream applied to exposed skin • Long sleeves / trousers — no exposed skin in contact with fresh mortar • Safety glasses worn during mixing and laying • Change out of wet/mortar-saturated clothing promptly • Good hand washing facilities available at welfare • Wash hands and face before eating, drinking and at end of shift • Cement use limited to low-chromate formulations (EU compliant) • First aider aware of cement burn treatment — flush with large volumes of water, seek medical advice · **Residual L:** 1 · **Residual S:** 2 · **Residual Risk: 2 — LOW** · **Action By:** All operatives

Ref: RA06 · **Hazard: Inhalation of silica dust — cutting bricks and blocks** · **Who is at Risk:** Bricklayers · **Likelihood (L):** 2 · **Severity (S):** 3 · **Initial Risk (LxS): 6 — HIGH** · **Control Measures:** • COSHH assessment available on site (COSHH-002) • Minimise cutting operations by planning bond pattern and ordering cut bricks where available •
