ComplyOnSite
complyonsite.com

RISK ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT

Removing plaster, Unit 3, Canal Side Business Park, Stockport

Hollins & Reed Contracting Ltd · 12 to 14 October 2026 · In charge: Dan Hollins

Job details

Company	Hollins & Reed Contracting Ltd
Site and work area	Unit 3, Canal Side Business Park, Stockport
Planned dates	12 to 14 October 2026
Customer	Thornley Vale Estates Ltd
In charge on site	Dan Hollins
Team	Two operatives: Dan Hollins leads and checks the area each morning; Priya Shah works with him.
Work	Removing plaster
Prepared by	Dan Hollins
Signature	
Date	

Work and boundaries

Remove wall plaster. Areas: As marked on the client's site plan

Working arrangement

- Access: the floor or ground.
- The work area will be kept clear of other people.

Emergency arrangements

Continuous siren; assemble at the site gate. First aider: Dan Hollins, first aid kit in the van. Ambulances come to the main entrance: Unit 3, Canal Side Business Park, Stockport. Dan Hollins calls 999 and meets the ambulance.

Planned method

1 **Set up the work area**
Confirm the work area and scope before starting. Keep other people outside the active work area. Keep entrances and escape routes clear.

2 **Plan the wall strip**
Agree the removal depth and the order before the first piece comes off. Screen the work area and keep other trades out.

3 **Check for asbestos before you disturb anything**
Check the asbestos survey covers exactly what you will disturb, to the full depth. Register only, or nothing: get a refurbishment survey or a sample first. Read what it says about the plaster, coatings and old linings being disturbed. No survey, or a material you do not recognise: stop and get it checked.

4 **Find and isolate hidden services**
Find cables and pipes in the wall and get them isolated before you strip. Stop if you uncover one you did not expect.

5 **Control dust at the task**
Open windows or fit fans. Use water or on-tool extraction. Wear an APF 20 mask (FFP3 or P3): fit tested and clean-shaven. Clean with a vacuum, not a dry brush.

6 **Limit each person's time on the hammer**
Note how long each person's hands are on each tool while it runs. Take the tool's vibration figure from the maker or HSE's table and check it fits how you use it. Points per hour times hours on the trigger, added up for the day, gives the exposure: 100 points is the action value, 400 is the limit. HSE's vibration calculator does the sum. Over 100, cut it with lower-vibration kit or less time, and never pass 400. Write the result down. Sharing the work does not replace this. Wear ear defenders or plugs the whole time a hammer is running in the room.

7 **Remove plaster in controlled sections**
Start at a sound edge and work in small sections with the least aggressive tool that will do the job. Do not chase into the backing just to finish a section.

8 **Protect the backing as it is exposed**
Leave the brick, blockwork, board or lath sound as each section is opened. Cover or make safe exposed edges before the area is left.

9 **Clear wall debris without spreading it**
Bag or lower debris in controlled loads and clear as the work moves. Keep the screen and boundary in place until the dust and debris are gone.

10 **Clear and hand back the area**
Remove tools, waste and unused materials. Check the area is clean and ready to use. Tell the customer or whoever runs the site when the work is complete.

Risk assessment

Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Controls in place
People entering the work area or tripping over materials Step 1	Workers, occupants and visitors	Mark or barrier the active work area. Store tools and materials away from access routes.
Unplanned removal spreads dust or damages the backing Step 2	The plaster team and other people in the building	Limit the people in the work area. Stop if the wall is not as expected.
Breathing asbestos fibres from old boards, sheets, sealants or insulation Step 3	The team and anyone in the building	Do not cut, drill or break any material until it is confirmed asbestos free. Licensed work is not for this method; hand it to a licensed contractor.
Hitting a live cable or gas pipe causes shock, fire or gas escape Step 4	The person doing the work and everyone nearby	Check again wherever the work moves. If you hit something, stop, keep clear and report it.
Plaster dust becomes airborne and damages lungs or spreads to other rooms Step 5	The plaster team, occupants and other trades	Use the dust control that matches the tool and material. Keep the screen in place while dust remains.
Deafness, and hands that go numb and never come back Step 6	Everyone stripping plaster and anyone else in the room	Keep the chisels sharp and let the tool do the work. Report tingling or numb fingers straight away.
The backing is damaged or loose plaster falls without warning Step 7	The plaster team and people nearby	Keep both hands and the tool under control. Stop when the backing moves, cracks or does not match the plan.
The exposed wall or lath is weakened, damaged or left unsafe Step 8	The plaster team and people using the building later	Do not remove more than the agreed depth. Raise damaged or unstable backing before covering it again.

Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Controls in place
Plaster debris or dust escapes and injures or exposes someone nearby Step 9	The team, other trades, occupants and the public	Never throw debris from height. Keep waste contained and remove it by the agreed route.
Debris, tools or unfinished work left in the area Step 10	Workers, occupants and visitors	Remove waste by the agreed route. Record and protect any unfinished work.