

HAWKWOOD

centre for future thinking

Health and Safety information for participants attending:

'Introduction to Blacksmithing' courses at Hawkwood with Arian Leljak, Tutor

In order that you have a safe and fulfilling day of blacksmithing with us here at Hawkwood we request you familiarise yourself with the following information:

Our commitment to you:

- The tutor will explain and demonstrate safe working practices at start of each course, prior to practical work beginning.
- The most important and relevant safety instruction is to ensure correct working techniques; posture at the anvil, use of tools and equipment, handling of fire and hot work items, and the use of PPE. These points will be covered by the tutor at start of day, and will be reinforced throughout the course in terms of individual corrections, supervision and advice.
- PPE: Safety goggles, aprons and gloves are provided – these items are part of our overall forge kit and have been used by previous participants. Your personally allocated PPE for your own use on the course day will have been in 'quarantine' for a minimum of 72 hours to ensure safe use by you.
- The workshop/ forge comprises entirely hand operated equipment, and all risks are visible and explicit, e.g. there is no risk of electrical shocks and injuries from power tools and machinery.
- The tutor is First Aid trained and has over 25 years' experience of working and teaching within a forge environment.
- Hawkwood has a forge Risk Assessment and accident reporting protocol, including review processes to ensure best safety practice.
- A first aid kit, eye wash station as well as firefighting equipment is located inside the workshop/ forge area.
- In the event of a burn you will be assisted by the first aider to cool the area in clean cool running water which is available in the adjacent studio building. After 10 minutes, if the pain persists, or if the skin is broken, or the area affected is large, the burn will be loosely wrapped in cling film and you will be advised to seek medical attention at the Stroud's Minor injury A&E department or Gloucestershire Royal Hospital in Gloucester.
- Hawkwood has a Duty manager available to assist when necessary the first aider in case of emergencies.

Your commitment:

- You agree to follow tutor instructions on safe working and appropriate use of tools and equipment. This will maximise your safety as well as ensure you having a productive and fulfilling experience of forge work.
- You will use relevant PPE as instructed by the tutor.

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- The main factor in remaining safe is to maintain high level of concentration and focus at all times. Accidents are most frequently caused by lapses of concentration, and we advise that the participants remain vigilant and take a break at any point where they feel tired - Note that this tiredness is less to do with physical effort and more to do with attention and focus.
- Please ensure you arrive appropriately dressed for forge work: you will get dirty, the forge is open to the elements on all sides so please ensure you are dressed warm enough. Flammable synthetic materials are not advised, cotton and woollen clothes are best, and leather/ outdoor footwear. Please do not wear synthetics, trainers, sandals nor short sleeve shirts/ vests or shorts.
- You will prioritise your own wellbeing, and of those working alongside you.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask our office admin team in advance of your course or on the day direct with the tutor.

We sincerely hope you enjoy your Introduction to Blacksmithing with us here at Hawkwood.

Warmest regards,



Alicia Carey
CEO