

Health & Safety for Visiting Education Groups

Please note that chaperones attending with visiting education groups are responsible for students throughout the visit. The following table identifies the type of concerns that teachers might have when planning a visit. It does not refer to actual occurrences. Please contact the Museum if you wish to carry out an on-site risk assessment.

Area	Potential Risk	Useful Information / Description	Risk Avoidance	Risk Level
Access needs	Students with limited	Ramps at museum building and activity	Schools to provide information in advance if students have	Low
	mobility, specific	rooms; a lift is installed within the main	specific needs. School provides walking aids and any	
	needs, etc.	Museum building. The Exhibition Gallery and	equipment which may help students with visual/hearing	
		Coach House have an accessible toilet.	impairments. Spare wheelchairs may be available on the	
			day.	
Arrival /	Injury from traffic	Coach parking situated on driveway through	Warning signs on drive to slow traffic. Authorized vehicles &	Low
Departure		museum property. Coach House and Stables	deliveries only in museum grounds. Staff (visiting and site)	
		situated at bottom of slope that leads from	will supervise students off/on the coach and en route to	
		driveway.	Coach House and Stables.	
Artefact	Injury from dropping	Range of objects from 18th, 19th & 20th	Artefacts are assessed for sharp edges by museum staff who	Low
handling	an object on feet,	Centuries with different use, texture &	also supervises session. All staff and students are asked i)	
_	trapping or cutting	materials.	wear gloves provided; ii) to handle artefacts carefully whilst	
	fingers; germs		seated; iii) to wash hands before eating.	
Between	Injury due to trips,	1820's building: cobbles, uneven paving	Verbal warning of dangers of running prior to moving around	Moderate-
buildings	slips & falls	stones and steps, paved and sloped pathway	site. Care should be taken in slippery conditions.	Low
		leads down to Coach House.		
Costume	Injury from trapping	Students will sit at tables with individual	Students asked to sit sensibly and not to move chairs.	Low
session	fingers in chairs or	chairs.	Museum staff assists students with costume, asking for	
(where	tripping on costume	Students will sometimes be invited to sit on	school staff assistance if necessary. If needed, students	
applicable)		the floor of Coach House during Costume	asked to take care & be aware of personal space if sitting as	
		session.	a group on the floor.	
		Two students model costume for class.		
Fire	Severe personal injury	An alarm will sound.	Smoke detectors, alarms & extinguishers tested in	Low
	from fire	Automatic emergency lighting within main	accordance with health & safety regulations.	
		Museum building & Coach House.	Museum staff aware of fire evacuation procedures and	
		Extinguishers located throughout buildings.	location of alarms, exits & extinguishers; all visiting	
			education staff and students are shown the muster point as	



Health & Safety for Visiting Education Groups

			they arrive on site; students to follow member of museum staff in the event of the fire alarm sounding. Do not use lift in the event of a fire.	
First Aid	Illness/allergies	The Learning Officer and members of the Visitor Experience Department are qualified first-aiders. Front of House staff carry two-way radios for communication.	Groups are advised to bring a first aider with them to deal with the needs of the group. First Aider is alerted as soon as situation arises. Students with allergies to have appropriate medication with them. Café not available to students; cookies pre-ordered from café are made without nuts, however the cookies are not made in a nut-free environment.	Low
			A defibrillator is located on site near the Café.	
Grounds	Getting lost, injury from garden	The grounds are largely grassed with gravel pathways. There are sloped areas due to the	Written & verbal request for school supervision at all times. Students should not wander unsupervised at lunchtime.	Moderate- Low
	machinery, sprains or falls, insect bites/stings	gradient on which the manor was built. Stone steps into Arboretum and Mount Vernon Garden. Wildlife in the grounds build homes in various areas creating holes and nests.	Garden staff will not leave machinery unattended. Groups should keep to designated pathways and heed any warning signs or cordoned off areas. Students with allergies to have appropriate medication with them. First Aider onsite.	
Personal Belongings, inc. coats & lunches	Theft (human/animal)	Education Rooms in the Coach House and Stables only used by schools visiting that day. Wildlife in grounds attracted by unattended food.	Written request for not needed coats & bags to be preferably left on the coach; otherwise, these can be brought into the Coach House. Money, cameras & mobile phones should be kept on the person. Lunches should not be left unattended in the picnic area.	Low
Personnel	Unsolicited interaction	Education staff are DBS checked. No sessions require children to be left alone with session leader at any point.	Schools should provide minimum number of chaperones as stated on schedule. Chaperones are required to supervise students at all times.	Low
Toilets	Unsupervised interaction between pupils and other visitors	All toilets are accessible by all visitors; they are situated centrally to picnic area & coach park; toilets also situated in the Coach House. There are no security cameras in toilet areas.	School chaperones to supervise use of toilets; encourage students to go in small groups.	Low



Health & Safety for Visiting Education Groups

September 22

Tours	Minor injury due to	1820's building: uneven floorboards/stone	Verbal warning of dangers of running and the need to hold	Low
	trips, slips, bumps &	slabs in some rooms & stone stairs	onto banisters when using stairs. Toughened glass or	
	falls caused by	Low level lighting in some rooms	Perspex used throughout in display cases.	
	distraction	Glass display cases		