

Aspley House, London

Hazard Information for Education Visits

It is the responsibility of teachers and group leaders to complete a risk assessment prior to the site visit. The following information is intended as an aid and does not replace the group leader's own risk assessment. We recommend coming to the site on a free planning visit, to help you with your risk assessment. Please note: where possible, English Heritage staff at the site will be happy to assist you with your queries, but cannot check or sign any section of your risk assessment.

Environmental conditions at historic sites may change rapidly and you will need to remain alert at all times during your visit. Most accidents are the result of slips and trips so please make sure you wear appropriate footwear and dress sensibly for the site and weather. Please be aware that the site may close at short notice due to adverse weather. Where applicable, stonework and trees at our sites are inspected regularly; however, extreme weather conditions can sometimes affect stonework and trees so as well as following any staff instructions and being mindful of temporary barriers and signage, please remain vigilant at all times. On-going conservation work may pose a temporary hazard; a member of staff will advise you of any works when you visit. No dogs are allowed on site but we do make an exception for access dogs but these must be on a lease.

All learners who are 16 years or younger must be supervised by a responsible adult at all times whilst on site.

Moving vehicles may pose a hazard upon arrival and while on the site.

- The drop off point for coaches is immediately to the rear of the house on Park Lane. Hyde Park Corner is a very busy road, so great care must be taken when passengers alight the coach.
- The entrance is located in the forecourt. Occasionally, cars may drive into the forecourt area.

Hazards within the house may pose a risk when on site.

- The fire doors in the basement area are heavy and may swing shut if knocked.
- There are low lighting levels throughout the house to help conserve the fabric, objects and paintings.
- Any bags must be carried or worn on the front to avoid accidental damage inside the house.
- Although many exhibits are housed in glass-fronted cabinets, visitors must observe 'Do Not Touch' signs, especially on free-standing exhibits.
- Windows and display cabinets throughout the house do not contain safety glass.
- Several areas are roped off for visitors both for their safety and the safety of the collection. Please ensure that you do not attempt to cross the rope barriers or pull on the rope.
- Steps, stairs and floors may all be uneven.

Wheelchair access to the house is limited.

- There are seven steps up to the front door. In order to gain access to the lift in the house, which goes to the first floor, a further nine steps must be descended. Please ensure that there are enough adults in your party to manage this.