

Lanercost Priory, Cumbria

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. Dogs on leashes may be present on site.

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.

- Parking for coaches is on the road by the archway to the priory.
- Car parking is adjacent to the admissions point.
- The car park is shared with the church.

The ruinous nature of the priory presents many potential hazards.

- The floor surfaces are often uneven and can be slippery in wet conditions.
- There is some protruding stonework in the grassed areas of the site.
- Walls are rough and contain uneven and often sharp stones.
- There is low masonry around the site as well as some sheer drops.
- Climbing on the walls is not permitted and poses a significant hazard.
- Railings should not be climbed or swung on.
- There is very little shelter on site in case of inclement weather.

Lanercost Priory is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna.

- There are animals and birds on site and their droppings can present a zoonotic hazard. Visitors should wash their hands prior to eating.
- Please take care around trees – they are inspected regularly but can drop limbs due to dry weather conditions or pest damage.

Asbestos has been identified on the site. This is common with older buildings and some historic artefacts and is being managed and monitored by English Heritage.

- These areas and objects are clearly marked with red 'a' stickers.
- No activities that may disturb the asbestos are permitted; please raise any concerns or accidental damage with the Site Manager immediately.