

LINDISFARNE PRIORY, NORTHUMBERLAND

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. Make sure you wear sensible footwear and dress appropriately 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, storm damage can sometimes affect the stability of stonework and branches of apparently healthy trees. 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.

COVID-19 INFORMATION

We want to reassure you that we're following government guidance to make your trip as safe and enjoyable as possible.

We've introduced a range of new hygiene standards and social distancing measures. Our staff and facilitators have received guidance to help them safely run education visits at this time, and we've also created a general risk assessment for education visitors to help you with your individual risk assessments. You can find this and other information about what to expect on your visit at: english-heritage.org.uk/schools-what-to-expect

We've also detailed key changes on the individual site schools pages of our website, so please check before you visit. Once your booking is confirmed, we recommend booking a free planning visit to help you prepare for your trip and familiarise yourself with the site.

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

- There is a public car and coach park a five-minute walk from the entrance to the priory. There are footpaths through the village but some of the walk is on roads, which can be busy during summer months.
- Grounds maintenance teams may use vehicles throughout the grounds.

The ruinous nature of the priory presents many potential hazards.

- The main entrance to the priory is accessed through a parish graveyard, via a narrow pathway. Groups should avoid straying onto the graves. There is a short flight of steps to the entrance way. An accessible route is available with assistance from site staff.
- The site is mainly grassed with some eroded ground surfaces towards the east end of the priory church, with an exposed rocky surface in these areas.
- There are sections of gravelled and unevenly-paved surfaces which can be slippery during or after wet weather.
- Access to the cloister is via a set of wooden steps or a ramp, both of which can be slippery in wet conditions.
- Walls are rough and uneven with sharp stones. There are stretches of low level masonry.
- Climbing on the walls is not permitted and poses a significant hazard.
- The perimeter of the site is enclosed by high walls and metal fencing. Fencing along the east side is lower, with metal spikes.
- The exposed nature of the site means that weather can be changeable, often with windy conditions.
- There is no shelter on site.

The museum and exhibition space may pose possible hazards for large groups.

- There is one entry and exit point into the main building which may be busy at peak times.
- The museum and exhibition space contains glass display cases and free standing artefacts. The limited space inside the area allows for small groups of up to 15 to visit with adult supervision.

Lindisfarne Priory is home to a wide variety of wildlife.

- There are animals and birds on site and their droppings can present a zoonotic hazard.
- Children should be reminded to wash their hands prior to eating.

Asbestos has been identified on the site this is being managed and monitored by English Heritage.

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