

Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings, Shropshire

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 remain vigilant at all times. Please follow any staff instructions and be mindful of temporary barriers and signage. 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.

The car and minibus park is situated behind the site on Marshall's Court.

- Coaches can drop off and collect passengers in the top carpark. Coaches cannot remain in the carpark.
- There is no footpath across the carpark. Visitors should remain vigilant for other vehicles when leaving and returning to their vehicle.
- There is a footpath to the site entrance from the carpark approximately 200 meters, and up a slight incline. Learners should be supervised carefully when walking to the site entrance.
- There are designated accessible car parking spaces in the carpark.
- Moving vehicles may pose a hazard on arrival and while on the site.

The historic nature of the site presents potential hazards.

- There are climbing hazards on walls and fences. Climbing is not permitted in any area.
- Parts of your visit will take place outdoors, please ensure students have appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather conditions.
- Some buildings contain historic machinery.

There are large areas of uneven surfaces around the site.

- Ground surfaces are uneven throughout the site and can be slippery when wet.
- There are worn cobbled surfaces in some areas.
- There are floor level grilles covering deep shafts.

There is an indoor museum area.

- The museum area has low light levels and interactive screens.
- There are activities in the museum with moving and loose elements. Please supervise groups closely.
- Care should be taken around the glass display cases.
- There is video presentation with audio and visual effects. Please speak to a member of staff if your group would benefit from adjustments in the sound or lighting.

There are few steps and staircases on the site.

- Most of the site is step free.
- If your visit includes a tour of the Jubilee Tower, this is only accessible via a flight of wooden steps.
- There is lift access to the upper floor of the main mill.

Some elements of a school visit take place in the Dye House.

- The Dye House is an unheated historic building. Warm clothing is recommended, particularly in autumn and early spring term.

There are learning resources that can be used by groups on-site, including handling collections.

- The objects in the handling collection may have rough edges, points or protrusions.
- Learners must be supervised at all times by leaders while using the resources.
- The objects may have been handled by multiple groups; always wash hands after use.