

Risk assessment information

The Museum's public galleries have been designed and are maintained as safe spaces for all our visiting public. Activities for schools are designed with full consideration of risks. Risk assessments are completed for all new works and activities. In particular, please note...

- Any materials to be handled as part of programmed activities (such as in the hands-on centres) have been risk-assessed. Staff leading the activities will advise those taking part of any precautions and will ensure safe behaviour.
- Trip hazards are identified and isolated from access routes.
- All electrical equipment is regularly checked and visitors are safe and protected from electrical shock.
- Construction materials and paint finishes used are safe to visitor contact. Construction materials and paint finishes used in our galleries are fire-retardant.
- The building is divided into fire compartments by fire doors. It is fitted with smoke- and heat-sensing systems that will trigger alarm systems to alert staff to the need for evacuation. Fire exits are clearly sign-posted and well-rehearsed evacuation procedures ensure visitors can safely and quickly exit the premises.
- Teachers (or other accompanying adults) remain responsible for the general health and safety of children as at school. Teachers (or other adults) should remain with groups at all times – for their health and safety and to accompany them in the case of an evacuation.
- Assembly sites after an evacuation cannot be accurately predicted for every group as they depend on the location of the hazard and the specific location of the group within the Museum. Group leaders are requested to brief every adult with a plan of action in the case of an evacuation.
- The uniformed staff in our Front of House team are in attendance and can be called on in the case of an incident requiring first aid.
- The Front of House team is the first point of call (via the information desk in the Central Hall) for lost children and will make an announcement to reunite lost children with their accompanying adults.

For more information about risk assessments relating to group visits, or to make any comment on this document, please contact Justine Millard by calling 020 7942 6006 or email j.millard@nhm.ac.uk.

