

Keeping visitors safe during the Coronavirus pandemic: Information for teachers / group leaders

We are really excited to be welcoming your group to our wetland centre. During the period where we have been closed to learning visits, we have been making all of the necessary arrangements to keep visiting children and staff safe. We are now happy that we can welcome learning groups back safely. These are the main steps we are taking to keep everyone safe during their trip:

Displaying symptoms

- We are reminding people not to visit if they, or anyone they have been in recent contact with, is showing symptoms of Covid-19.

Numbers

- There can be a maximum of two schools or two school bubbles per day on site. Each social bubble will remain socially distanced from all other bubbles (as well as our staff / volunteers and the general public).
- These numbers will form part of our daily cap, ensuring that we have a safe number of people on site on any given day.

Social distancing

- For social distancing within your group we will follow your school /organisation guidelines.
- When under the supervision of our staff, social distancing will be maintained between the group, the general public and our delivery staff / volunteers.
- Changes have been made to the site to ensure that social distancing guidelines are able to be followed during times when your staff / helpers are guiding groups around the site. Information on these changes will be shared with you as part of the welcome talk.
- We will meet you from your coach / transport and assist with the maintenance of social distancing between the group and the general public as you enter the centre. An alternative entrance will be used to further reduce contact with the general public.
- The consequences of deliberate breaching of social distancing are made clear to all visitors including on the terms and conditions of entry.
- Where groups will be working in a single area for some time, this area will be cordoned off to keep your groups separate from the general public.
- You will be allocated a designated lunch space and place to store your belongings.
- You will be allocated a dedicated time to use one of our play areas. This will be cleaned beforehand and your groups will not mix with the general public in play areas.

Ventilation

- Groups will be kept outdoors as far as possible and any indoor spaces that are used will be kept well ventilated.

Face coverings

- Our staff will wear face coverings when inside (staff are permitted to remove their face covering if talking to someone who lip reads).
- All visitors over the age of 11 are required to wear face coverings when inside unless they are medically exempt.

Hand hygiene

- Children and accompanying adults will wash their hands and apply anti-bac on their hands upon arrival, before eating, when leaving, between activities and at regular intervals during other parts of the visit.
- We have extended our handwashing facilities and added extra hand sanitisation points around the centre.

Toilets

- You will be allocated your own designated toilet(s) for your own exclusive use during the visit. These will have been cleaned thoroughly prior to your visit.

Additional cleaning

- Indoor areas used and any items touched will be thoroughly cleaned between groups.
- The frequency and level of cleaning has been stepped up across the centre.

Resources

- There will be no sharing of resources except within social bubbles.
- Resources used will be disinfected and / or left 72 hours between use by different groups.
- Groups may be asked to bring certain resources with them if required e.g. pens where writing is required. Laminated sheets will be used and wiped with disinfectant between use.

First Aid

- We will avoid any higher risk activities that may increase the likelihood of first aid needing to be given.
- First aid is to be administered by school staff unless additional assistance is required.

Illness during the visit

- If a member of your group should become ill with Covid-like symptoms during the visit, they will be accompanied (along with one of your accompanying adults) to the First Aid room where they will be isolated from the rest of the group whilst arrangements are made to get them home safely.
- Please ensure that your staff have the PPE required for this purpose.

Test and trace

- Please ensure we have the correct contact details for a lead member of staff and anyone in the group aged 16 and above so that we can engage with test and trace if required.
- Please inform us if anyone that came on the visit displays symptoms or tests positive within 14 days of their visit.

Coach drivers

- Where coach drivers are intending to come on site, they will need to be included in your school numbers. Please advise them to bring a face covering for use in indoor areas and encourage them to remain outdoors as far as possible.

Training

- Any staff and volunteers who will be involved in formal learning delivery will have been made aware of all of the above guidance along with all relevant risk assessments beforehand.