

CHYSAUSTER ANCIENT VILLAGE, CORNWALL

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 coach park is situated opposite the entrance to the site.

- It is necessary to cross a narrow road to the site entrance; hedges and a bend in the road limit visibility.
- There is no designated walkway through the car park and no pavements.
- The only toilets on site are located within the car park.

The historic nature of the site presents potential hazards.

- The walls are rough and may contain sharp stones.
- There are many climbing hazards; climbing is not permitted anywhere on site.
- Ruined walls may be unstable.
- There are protruding stone foundations in some areas.
- The site is exposed to the elements and high winds.

There are large areas of uneven surfaces and around the site.

- The access path from the car park is loose stone and has some step-treads; this is approximately 400 metres uphill.
- There are a few defined paths on the site; please keep to the mown grass areas.
- Ground surfaces are mainly grass which can be slippery when wet. The site is built on a hill with very little flat ground.
- There may be concealed animal holes in grassy areas.

There are a number of steps and staircases on the site.

- There are stiles and wooden steps along the access path.
- There is one flight of wooden steps up to the observation platform.

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.

There is a possible presence of livestock grazing and snakes (adders) on site.

- Animals may bite or kick; please do not approach them.
- Animal droppings may present a zoonotic hazard; visitors should wash hands prior to eating meals.

Covid-19 and flu.

- We follow government and [NHS guidelines](#) to reduce the risk of transmission. Please also follow their guidance and do not visit if you have flu or Covid-19 symptoms or have recently tested positive.