

## **Much Wenlock Priory, 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 small car and coach park is situated opposite the priory entrance.**

- Access to the site entrance from the car park is across a minor road with no pavement.
- There is no designated footpath across the car park.

#### **The historic nature of the site presents potential hazards.**

- The walls are rough and may contain sharp stones.
- Climbing is not permitted and poses a significant hazard.
- The site is exposed to the elements; there is very limited sheltered space.

#### **There are large areas of uneven surfaces.**

- Ground surfaces are uneven throughout the site and can be slippery when wet.
- There are remaining stone foundations throughout the site.
- There are few defined paths on the property; much of the site is mown grass.
- There may be concealed animal holes and dips in grassy areas.

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

- There are worn, stone steps down to the crypt; these have no handrail.
- There are some ruined staircases with unguarded sides; please do not climb ruined staircases.
- Stone steps may be narrow and uneven.
- Single steps may pose a trip hazard.

#### **There are sheer drops on the site.**

- There is a sheer unfenced drop into the crypt.

#### **Much Wenlock Priory is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna.**

- The droppings of animals and birds can present a zoonotic hazard; visitors should wash hands before eating.
- Plant material and thorns may be toxic or poisonous.

**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.