York Cold War Bunker, York
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 as well as following any staff instructions and being mindful of temporary barriers and signage, please remain vigilant at all times. On-going conservation work may pose a temporary hazard; a member of staff will advise you of any works when you visit.

No dogs are allowed on site.

All learners who are 16 years or younger must be supervised by a responsible adult at all times whilst on site.

Access up to admission point and bunker may pose potential hazards.

- Access is via steep stairs. Please pay attention to your footing whilst climbing the stairs.
- There is a chairlift on site which allows wheelchair access to the second floor.

Within the bunker groups should be aware of the unique nature of this site.

- Before the tours commence, visitors will be given a full safety brief by a member of English Heritage staff. It is important that all instructions are complied with.
- There are a large number of steps within the bunker. Appropriate care should be taken at all times.
- There are two exits, one upstairs and one on the ground floor of the bunker.
- None of the artefacts should be touched by visitors unless invited to do so by a member of English Heritage staff.
- The audio-visual presentation, rated PG, contains graphic images of the type of injuries that people can sustain as a result of exposure to radiation. We advise that teachers make a planning visit to assess whether the presentation is suitable for their pupils.
- The corridors are narrow and there is no outside light entering the building. Students who are uncomfortable with enclosed spaces may become anxious.
- There are coat hooks on the corridors at head height.
- Access to outside areas of the site is prohibited.

Asbestos has been identified on the site. This is common with older buildings and some historic artefacts and is being managed and monitored by English Heritage.

- These areas and objects are clearly marked with red 'a' stickers.
- No activities that may disturb the asbestos are permitted; please raise any concerns or accidental damage with the Site Manager immediately.
- Please ensure you and your students stick to the tour and do not enter restricted areas.