

INFORMATION FOR SCHOOLS

We look forward to welcoming your group to Canterbury Cathedral!

The Cathedral is first and foremost a church. It is important that you prepare your pupils in advance of your visit and explain that many visitors come to worship, on pilgrimage or perhaps to grieve for the loss of a loved one. Young people in large groups can disrupt the enjoyment of others, and we need your help to control your group.

The Cathedral's Schools Department has prepared teacher information sheets and questionnaires in several languages. These may be downloaded free of charge from our website, www.canterbury-cathedral.org. We hope you use them to prepare your pupils in advance of your visit.

Please read the following instructions so that **all** visitors may enjoy this very special building.

- Teachers should stay with their group at all times, inside but also in the Cathedral grounds.
- Large groups can be disruptive and block pathways. On entry, groups are divided into small groups of approx. 10 students. Please do not re-group inside.
- Each group leader will receive a '**Lead well**' leaflet with a short synopsis of the Cathedral's main features.
- Please ask students to switch off mobile phones, remove chewing gum and explain that hats or caps are not worn in Christian churches.
- Follow the route of the Welcome leaflet and do not go against the visitor flow.
- At certain times, prayers are said by the Cathedral chaplain. Please stop your group and ask for silence. You may like to join in of course!
- The Crypt is a quiet place for prayer and worship. Please respect this and simply point out architectural features whilst you take your group around.
- Visitors may take photographs for personal use, except for the Crypt.
- When leaving the Cathedral, please follow the exit signs. Do not exit through Christ Church Gate.
- There are several areas available for picnics within the grounds. Please make sure pupils throw rubbish in the bins provided.
- It is not appropriate to play football and/or other games which could cause damage to plants and/or have a negative effect on the enjoyment of other visitors.
- If possible, inform the Schools Department if you require special assistance for disabled access or facilities in advance. If not possible to do this in advance, Welcome Centre staff will be pleased to assist on arrival. An **Access Statement** and **Facilities for Disabled** leaflet is available from our website or on arrival.

We thank you for your cooperation and hope you enjoy your visit to Canterbury Cathedral.



For more information, please contact the Schools Department, schools@canterbury-cathedral.org, or tel +44 (0) 1227 762862, fax +44 (0) 1227 865222
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