

Highland Folk Museum
Pre-visit activities – Responsible Citizens
TEACHER'S NOTES

When your class visits the Highland Folk Museum, we want you to have a safe and enjoyable time. The questions should help your pupils to create some rules for a good visit. Once they have completed their sheets, gather their suggestions together and through class discussion come up with a set of rules that you can bring with you to the museum.

Throughout any visit, you and other responsible adults must remain with your class to supervise them and ensure their safety. These questions, however, encourage pupils to think responsibly about their own safety, about considering others and how they can take care of the objects and environments on site.

Below are the questions that the pupils are asked to answer and some suggested answers so that you can help them get the most out of the question sheet.

Taking care of yourself

When you arrive on site, you will be in the Museum car park. Can you think of ways to keep yourself safe as you arrive?

Answers might include staying together; waiting for everyone to get off the bus before crossing the car park; walking sensibly; looking before walking to the Reception.

There are areas of water on site. You may not be near all of them during your visit, but can you think of a rule to keep yourself safe at these areas?

Answers might include not mucking about near the water; staying away from the water.

The Highland Folk Museum is on a large site – it covers 80 acres and is a mile long. How do you think you can stay safe and make sure that those responsible for you know that you are?

Answers might include staying together as a group; walking, not running; knowing your group and who your group leader is.

If you have been handling objects or have been near the animals what do you think you might need to do before eating on the site?

Answers might include: washing their hands.

Throughout the site you will have a chance to carefully handle objects on display. Just as we don't want objects to come to harm through handling, we also don't want you to be harmed by any objects. Can you think of a rule or rules to ensure you stay safe?

Answers might include: not lifting anything that is too heavy; being careful of sharp objects ; be careful not to break objects that may become sharp;

handle things with care and respect – they are very old and they also need to be protected from harm.

Taking care of others

As well as being responsible for yourself, you will also need to consider others, e.g. classmates, teachers and other visitors on this site.

Can you think of a rule to remind you to consider the others in your class?

Answers might include: Think of your class mates and make sure you don't do anything that will cause them harm.

In what ways can you show consideration to the staff on the site?

Answers might include: being polite; listening carefully.

As representatives of your school, can you think of ways in which you can be considerate towards our other visitors?

Answers might include: behaving sensibly; sharing and taking turns; listening carefully and asking questions.

Taking care of the objects, buildings and environments

OBJECTS AND BUILDINGS

When people think of museums, they usually think of places with glass cases, with objects kept behind the glass. The Highland Folk Museum is a different sort of museum. Among the objects that we display, there are also old and reconstructed buildings. On your visit you can enter the buildings and many objects that are on open display and may be touched.

As we are a museum, the objects and buildings on the site are very old. We are happy for you to explore the buildings and objects, but perhaps you can think of a few rules that will help to keep these objects safe for all our future visitors?

Answers might include: handling objects gently; sharing and taking turns; respecting the age of objects and understanding the need to preserve them for the future.

ENVIRONMENTS

We value our site as a setting for objects and buildings of the past. Can you help us to take care of it too?

Can you think of any rules that will help to keep the environment and safe and enjoyable place to visit?

Answers might include: put any litter in bins provided; keep to paths; don't disturb the wildlife – animals and birds have feelings too!