



Chertsey Museum Education Service

Runnymede Borough Museum

Chertsey Museum Education Service COVID-19 Procedures

31st July 2020

Chertsey Museum Education service operates within the classrooms of multiple schools per week. We therefore feel that government guidance for supply teachers and supply support staff is the closest guidance that applies to our work.

Current guidance from the government states “Supply teachers, peripatetic teachers and/or other temporary staff can move between schools. They should ensure they minimise contact and maintain as much distance as possible from other staff. Specialists, therapists, clinicians and other support staff for pupils with SEND should provide interventions as usual. Schools should consider how to manage other visitors to the site, such as contractors, and ensure site guidance on physical distancing and hygiene is explained to visitors on or before arrival. Where visits can happen outside of school hours, they should. A record should be kept of all visitors.”

Methods statement for in-school visits:

Actions taken by Chertsey Museum Education Staff to reduce risk:

- Risk assessment and expectations will be provided to school ahead of the visit.
- On arrival at the school, museum staff will sanitise their hands. Hands will also be sanitised between sessions with different classes and after handing any object touched by school staff or pupils.
- Face masks will be worn by museum staff when entering the school; this is not expected for teachers and pupils. If there are participants that are hard of hearing and require the use of lip reading, museums staff may choose to remove masks for that conversation and keep distance. Museum staff may also choose to remove masks when giving a talk and remain at a distance from pupils, putting the mask on again when working more closely for activities.
- Pupils and school staff may handle objects, but will sanitise their hands before doing so.
- If the school is implementing a policy of bubbling in classes, but still wish for museum staff to visit multiple classes in one day, museum staff will remain at the front of a class with a 2m distance. Museum staff will be the only ones touching objects in this case.
- Any objects used in a school will be quarantined for 72 hours before use in another school.
- Museum staff will bring a supply of sanitising wipes in order to wipe down any school equipment used e.g. laptops or visualiser needed for their presentation.
- Museum staff recognise the difficulty of keeping to 1m+ rules within in a classroom.
- When leaving the school, museum staff will pack up objects, and clean down outside of boxes before they are quarantined for 72 hours.
- Museum staff will not visit more than one school in a day.
- Visits to the museum by school groups will not be possible when public are also visiting to ensure social distancing is maintained.
- If museum staff are notified of a need to isolate via track and trace, we will inform schools that we have also visited in that time frame (although this is not needed by track and trace).
- If in the event a member of the museum staff is unable to attend a booked session for any reason, will try and find another member of staff to deliver the session as planned. If this is not possible, then we regret the need for last minute cancellations. Sessions will be re-arranged for another time convenient to the school.

- In the event of social distancing limitation not being lifted sufficiently to enable a visit, or in the case further restrictions are imposed, then school visits will be cancelled without cost to schools.

Actions to be taken by school for a visit by Chertsey Museum education staff:

- School should provide museum staff with their risk assessment for visitors and inform us of any regulations and requirements they have for visitors in advance (at least 3 working days).
- Similar to a school trip, parents should be informed that a visitor will be in the classroom with their children. You may wish to pass some of the information in this methods statement on to them.
- Schools must respond confirming that they are happy for us to operate in the manner outlined in the information about the session, and this methods statement. If any activities will conflict with school's own regulations, museum staff must be informed in advance (at least 2 weeks) so that we can find a workable solution.
- Understand that museum staff move from school to school within the week and that we may meet a large number of people - similar to how supply staff may operate.
- Please understand we may have to make some changes to our usual sessions and workshops, or that we may need to deliver slightly shorter sessions if restrictions or one-way systems mean it takes longer to move between classes within a school. We are still dedicated to providing a high quality learning experience to the best of our ability.
- School should notify museum staff in case of a positive COVID-19 case at the school in line with government track and trace policy.
- Schools must guarantee that to the best of their knowledge there are no symptomatic pupils are present during sessions.
- Good ventilation and larger classroom are appreciated if possible during visits. It is also helpful if teaching multiple classes if museum staff can stay within the same room as classes rotate to reduce the difficulty in moving large number of objects around the school if one-way systems are in place.
- Before children handle objects provided by the museum children shall wash/sanitise their hands.
- If a policy of bubbling within classes is being maintained, and a school wishes for us to visit more than one class in their school, then a clear 2m area at the front of the class should be marked out for museum staff to deliver teaching from. A visualiser may also be helpful for children to see objects better. In these cases we will not be able to offer normal elements such as activity carousels or children handling objects as it is not possible to sanitise all objects and equipment between use by classes within the day. An alternative plan and reflective price for the session will be offered instead.

Methods statement for loan boxes:

The normal terms and conditions for the loan box system will continue to operate with the following additional rules.

Actions taken by Chertsey Museum Education Staff to reduce risk:

- All loan boxes will be quarantined for one week between use by schools. Objects will not be cleaned due to their delicate historic nature.
- When dropped off by a school, loan boxes will be check for completeness by a museum assistant while wearing gloves, sanitising their hands after completing this task.

Actions to be taken loan box users:

- School staff returning the loan boxes should only enter the museum if they are free of symptoms.
- Do not wash or sanitise any of the objects as it will damage them. Hands should be dry (and dry from hand sanitiser) before handling.
- If a loan box will be moved between bubbled groups, we advise they are quarantined for 72 hours.