Risk Assessment for group visits to Manchester Art Gallery

This document is for guidance – teachers should carry out and use their own assessment.

- The school staff are responsible for their children at all times.
- For large self-programming groups, staff and children should be divided into small groups to explore the Gallery.
- Each group must have an appointed leader (teacher or responsible adult).
- All staff and group leaders should carry a list of the children in their group.
- If children are allowed to explore in smaller teams, group leaders should set up regular meeting times and places to check attendance of their children.
- The Visitor Services team, on site at all times during public opening hours, are trained in first aid and emergency procedures.
- Level of risk is considered LOW.

The recommended adult/pupil ratio is:

- For years 1 to 3, a minimum of 1 adult to every 5 children
- For years 4 to 9, a minimum of 1 adult to 10 children
- For years 10 onwards, a minimum of 1 adult to 15 students

Area	Hazard	Action
Arrival at the Gallery: Mounting/dismounting from coaches	 Trips, slips and falls. Traffic on the public highway. 	 Clear access route to all entrances Wheelchair ramp to main entrance. Group under supervision of accompanying adults. Children lined up against the wall before proceeding calmly to the Gallery entrance.
Inside Manchester Art Gallery	Fire	 Visitor Services staff trained in emergency procedures. Fire escape routes and refuge points marked on floor plan. All areas and facilities fully accessible. Notify gallery on advance of visitors with special requirements.

	Trips, slips and falls.Stairs.	Group under close supervision of accompanying adults and behave appropriately (i.e., no running, climbing, etc)
	 Children wandering away from their group. 	 Building inspected daily by Gallery staff. Group leaders should be aware of the childrens whereabouts at all times and are responsible for ensuring adequate provision of responsible adults to supervise the children
	Lost childrenAbduction	 (see recommended adult / pupil ratio above). All accompanying adults to be aware the venue is a public building and of the possible hazards. I accompanying adults to check their groups
	Damage to exhibits.	regularly. Group to set clear meeting times and places. All accompanying adults to be aware that works of art are not to be touched except when a sign invites you to.
	 Glass doors and walls. 	 Unglazed paintings barriered off from the public. No chewing gum in the galleries. Large etched dots at a height of 1.5 meters on all glass doors, etc.
Education Suite: Studios 1 & 2	• Fire	 Visitor Services staff trained in emergency procedures. Fire escape routes and

	 Trips, slips and falls. 	refuge points marked on floor plan. • Group under supervision of accompanying adults. • Rooms cleaned and inspected daily by Gallery staff.
	 Spillages. 	 Cleaning equipment available in both studios.
	 Cutting implements. 	 Scissors appropriate for the age group and used under adult supervision.
	 Arts materials. 	 Non-toxic materials and adhesives First Aid qualified Visitor Services staff in the building at all times. Washing facilities in
	 Arts Equipment (printing presses etc.\0. Electrical equipment. 	 Washing facilities in both studios. Equipment suitable for age group and used only under adult supervision. All electrical equipment tested regularly according to Manchester City Council regulations. Trailing cables taped securely to the floor
Public toilets.	 Trips, slips and falls. Need for adult assistance. Misbehaviour, Including smoking. Unable to unlock/lock the toilet door. 	 Children to be supervised by school staff when using the toilets. No smoking anywhere in the building. Locks can be opened from outside by gallery staff.
Manchester Art Gallery shop and restaurant.	Trips, slips and falls.Theft	Group under supervision of accompanying adults.

		 Procedure in place for cleaning up spillages. Appropriate behaviour from children (e.g., no running or climbing,)
Packed lunches	 Groups congregating in public thoroughfares, in fire escape routes and main exits to eat packed lunches. Crossing public highways to reach public areas outdoors for groups to have lunch (Peace Gardens and Albert Square). 	 No packed lunches to be eaten in any part of the gallery, including the restaurant. Pedestrian crossings and pavements