

Black Mountain quarries visit information



Please read the following advice prior to visiting the quarry. Before visiting with pupils we recommend that teachers visit beforehand to familiarise themselves with the site. We have provided the following information to make teachers aware of the risks on site and provide recommendations to reduce these risks, however it is the responsibility of the school to complete their own risk assessment taking into account any additional risks or pupil requirements.

In addition to the above we recommend that groups visiting have at least one first aid trained person and carry a first aid kit at all times. Mobile phones should be fully charged with all group leaders being aware of emergency numbers. There are no toilet facilities at the site however The Black Mountain Centre does have facilities (large groups should contact them in advance). We hope you enjoy your visit.

Help us protect the site!

Please make pupils aware that wildflowers should not be picked, nothing should be removed from the site (i.e. fossils) and the tufa which has formed on site should not be disturbed or stood on.

Hazard	Risk level	Precautions to be put in place to reduce the risk level
walking in remote area/ lost children	Low	Teachers are advised to visit the site beforehand to familiarise themselves with the site and terrain. Teachers should use the 'buddy system' to ensure pupils are always aware of those around them. Ensure there is an adult at the front and the back of the group. Count pupils regularly and make pupils aware of plans should they become lost.
Adverse weather	Low	If adverse weather conditions (including high winds) make visits to site unsafe, they should be postponed or cancelled. Visitors should wear the appropriate clothing when visiting the site. Including sturdy foot wear. They should also have available clothing appropriate for a variety of weather conditions. In hot weather apply sun-block.
Ice/mud/debris on paths or slopes	Medium	Ice, mud and water on site. Teachers should ensure that pupils are aware of this and avoid wet areas on the site. Visitors should wear appropriate footwear, and remain firm on the open paths.
Litter, metal, glass, hyper- dermic needles etc	Medium	Broken glass, scraps of metal and litter may be present on site. Pupils and teachers should be aware of this and avoid certain areas of the site where litter is concentrated.
Children climbing on ex- posed masonry	Low	Teachers should advise pupils of the unstable nature of some of the older and more vulnerable kilns and it is strongly advised that climbing is avoided on these structures. The same should be applied to any quarry related stone rubble piles. Any children caught climbing on such structures should be told to stop and climb down (if it is safe to do so) immediately

Hazard	Risk level	Precautions to be put in place to reduce the risk level
Cars driving in and around visiting area	Low	Teachers should advise pupils to be aware of the presence of the cars and to behave with caution.
Unstable building structures, cliffs, quarries and mining remains	Medium	<p>Take extreme care when in the vicinity of unstable building structures, cliffs, quarries and mining remains where there is a risk of objects falling or of falling into a hole.</p> <p>Teachers should guide pupils within a safe distance of these features and warn of the risks and dangers of these areas.</p> <p>A full risk assessment must be undertaken where there is a potentially high risk from any of these hazards.</p>
Livestock	Low	Sheep and horses may be present in the area. Teachers should encourage pupils not to disturb the sheep or to feed the mountain ponies.
Drops from high areas	Low	Pupils should be advised to stay away from cliff edges and any other hazardous areas.
Sanitation/hydration	Low	Toilet facilities will not be available on site. Basic hand washing facilities should be brought along and made available.
Irritation to skin	Low	Pupils should be made aware that quicklime can cause irritation to skin. They should not touch the remains of any quicklime found inside the kilns
Other identified hazards	Low	<p>At least one of the supervisory staff should be qualified in first aid and first aid kit should be in his / her possession on the visit.</p> <p>Teachers should also have a mobile phone with them and be aware of emergency numbers.</p> <p>Please be aware that the site may not be accessible to wheelchair users or the less able. Teachers should also check that asthma sufferers have the correct medication with them as there are some steep areas along the walk.</p>