

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL

Notes for Teachers

Rochester Cathedral has been a place of worship since 604 AD. We welcome visitors of all ages to explore our historical associations and experience the traditions of prayer and worship here. The Education Centre at Rochester Cathedral exists to help teachers relate the work of the Cathedral to the school curriculum. We hope you will enjoy your time with us. We are always ready to listen to ideas for improving our service to our visitors.

Please note that Rochester Cathedral has a Child Protection Policy in place. Please would you ensure that each visiting group has an adult: child ratio of no less than 1:15 for pupils above KSII and 1:10 for Primary aged pupils. Please **do not** leave your groups on their own in the Cathedral: in the event of an accident we might not be able to locate responsible staff quickly. All adults should wear a label with the name of their school to assist us should we need to find staff in an emergency. Pupils remain the responsibility of the teacher in charge of the trip at all times.

The following guidance will help everyone benefit from their time in the cathedral:

SHOWING RESPECT

The Cathedral is used as a place of worship every day. Please make your group aware of the need for treating this church as somewhere special. Walking and talking quietly, respecting traditions such as taking off your hat on entering, leaving all food and drink for after the work in the cathedral, putting chewing gum / sweets away; these are all ways that we can show respect for the traditions of the national church. Mobile phones should also be turned off please. The charge for pupils entitles them to take photos if they wish.

THE CRYPT

Beneath the East End of the Cathedral is the Crypt. Teaching activities take place here and there is a chapel set aside for private prayer. It will help us if your pupils are aware of this and enter quietly to complete their worksheets.

SECURITY

Pupils **must** keep their bags with them at all times. We have had instances of opportunist thieves taking money and cameras and would not wish this to happen to your group.

FACILITIES

Unfortunately there are only very limited toilet facilities in the Cathedral, for use in emergencies only. We recommend that you use the public facilities opposite the Corn Exchange in Northgate, or those in the Visitor Information Centre.

There is a small shop inside the cathedral. Space will only allow ten children to visit at a time.

Please ask an adult to supervise this.

COSTS FOR TEACHERS/ADULTS

There are no entrance charges for teachers and helpers with school groups, although a donation is always welcome. One copy of the chosen worksheet is sent to each school for reference. This may be copied for other adults on the trip. Further copies are available at 50p per copy.

Unless an arrangement has been made for the school to be invoiced, please bring payment on the day, in cash or by cheque, made out to **Rochester Cathedral**.

This sheet may be photocopied and given to all adults on the trip.