

Planning your educational group visit to Chatsworth

Information for group leaders

Our education team is here to help make sure you have a happy and successful visit.

1. Enquiries & booking

All school group visits are subject to availability and must be pre-booked. Please complete and return a booking form, or call the bookings office on 01246 565300 to discuss requirements and check availability.

2. Schools programme

A fun programme of curriculum-linked activities has been developed by our dedicated education team and qualified teachers in residence. All activities may be tailored to suit your exact requirements. Download the schools programme booklet or call the bookings office on 01246 565300 to find out more.

3. Self-guided learning

A growing selection of learning resources is available to download before your visit, and Chatsworth staff are here to try and answer your questions.

4. Timing your day

We recommend you allow a full day to explore Chatsworth, giving you time for activities in the house, garden and farmyard. The bookings team will discuss the timing of your visit to suit your requirements and meet availability.

5. Payment

Payment may be made on arrival at house, garden or farmyard entrances. You will be given a printed till receipt for the number of people in the party. If you are visiting both the house and farmyard you can pay for both attractions with one cheque (made payable to Chatsworth House Trust) at whichever ticket point you arrive at first. Alternatively you can be issued with an invoice payable within 28 days of your visit.

6. Access

Chatsworth does everything possible to make the grade one listed building and grounds as accessible as possible. Wheelchairs and access scooters are freely available to pre-book, and our friendly team is always happy to help. Our bookings team will be happy to discuss your access requirements. * In 2009 the Masterplan building project is underway, securing Chatsworth's future for visitors. Access to the first floor of the house will be restricted for one season only. Contact the bookings office for details.

7. Health & safety

Group leaders are responsible for first aid and the safe behaviour of their group whilst on site, and are recommended to bring a first aid kit. Chatsworth has a fully qualified on-site first aid team, contactable by house and farmyard staff in case of emergency.

8. Free pre-visits & risk assessments

Group leaders are encouraged to make the most of a free pre-visit to the house, garden, farmyard or park prior to their group visit, to get to know the site and conduct a site risk assessment. Information to help you with your risk assessment is available to download at www.chatsworth.org/learn.

9. Bags

Visitors are not permitted to take bags and rucksacks into the house. We recommend that bags are left on the bus or with a warden at the entrance to the house.

10. Lavatories

There are lavatories near the house entrance and exit, at the garden and farmyard entrances and the stables. There are no lavatories inside the house or further inside the garden.

11. Lunch

You are welcome to picnic in the garden (subject to garden admission charges), and in the freely accessible 1000 acre park. The farmyard has a picnic room which may be pre-booked (subject to farmyard admission charges). Food-to-go outlets in the garden, farmyard and house entrance sell a selection of hot and cold snacks at £1.50 - £4.00.

12. Shopping

Gift shops in the house, garden and farmyard welcome school pupils and sell a variety of pocket money items at between £2.00 and £5.00.

13. Photography

Photography is welcome throughout Chatsworth, including inside the house. Please note that flash bulbs on pupils cameras may be unable to light rooms sufficiently. If you have photographs of your visit or resulting classroom work which you would like to be shared on the Chatsworth website etc., the education team would be delighted to hear from you. No photographs are published without full expressed consent.

14. Coaches & minibuses

Parking is free for pre-booked coaches and minibuses. Coach drivers are provided with a generous refreshments voucher and access to a rest room with television and newspapers, Coach drivers are welcome to stay in the house and garden free of charge.