

Risk Assessment for families with children with SEND

(Revised July 2025)

Hunterian Museum

The Royal College of Surgeons of England
38-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3PE



Royal College
of Surgeons
of England

ADVANCING SURGICAL CARE

Risk Rating system: Where 0 = lowest risk and 5 = highest risk

Hazard	Existing Workplace Precautions	Existing Risk Control System	Risk Rating		
			Likelihood	Severity	Risk
Walking into a glass display case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases are well lit and highly visible Cases are constructed of materials conforming to modern safety standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blind and partially sighted visitors are offered the option of being accompanied by Museum staff, as desired 	1	2	3
Tripping over a cable or wire from a laptop or projector in use for a presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leads stretching from the plug socket to the equipment are always covered with cable tidies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A clear separation is made between audience's seating and presenter's space Proximate floor sockets are used where possible 	2	2	4
Becoming lost in building and trapped in building after Museum closure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-public areas and spaces are security restricted through the use of staff pass cards The College is monitored and checked after hours by security staff and CCTV 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group leaders are requested to take responsibility for their groups at all times As per LEA guidelines, school groups must bring an adequate number of adults to accompany their students Group visits must be booked in advance so that all departments concerned are notified 	2	1	3
Becoming trapped in building during a fire or bomb evacuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear evacuation procedures are in place and staff are trained regularly Designated fire marshals are trained to clear the area for which they are responsible Fire exits are clearly marked Fire alarm is tested on Tuesdays at 9pm before the public spaces are open 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hunterian Museum has flashing and audible alarms Group leaders must keep a register of those in their care and report anyone missing or trapped 	2	2	4

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Danger of injury from sharp or heavy surgical instruments during a handling workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handling workshops are closely supervised by trained museum staff and volunteers • Participants are shown safe handling techniques before being allowed to touch objects • Children should be under the supervision of their adults at all times • All participants must wear gloves before handling objects • First aiders are available during Museums' opening hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants are shown sharp objects but are only to handle them with adequate instruments • Sharp items are stored away from the tables participants are sitting at • All objects are assessed by the Museums' Conservation Unit staff before they are added to the handling collection • Parents take the responsibility of their children during the duration of the workshop 	2	1	3
Danger of needle stick injury when using surgical sutures during a skills workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of sutures takes place under close supervision of medically qualified professionals, medical students, parents and Museum staff • Participants are taught safe suturing practices • Parents/carers are to supervise their child during the workshop to ensure they understand how to use the sutures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All sutures are sterile and one-use only, minimising the risk of infection if an injury occurs • Sharps bins are supplied for the safe disposal of all used sutures 	2	1	3

Child Protection Notes:

Schools who are attending a conducted tour or are taking part in a scheduled workshop will be provided with a health and safety briefing and will not be alone with a members of college staff or a museum volunteer at any time. If you are coming for a self-led visit we strongly advise that you make a pre-visit to the museum and college and to create your own supervision plan to ensure student safety.

The museum toilets and cloakroom are located outside of the museum area but on the same level. We recommend that students using these facilities unaccompanied inform a school staff member before leaving the museum to do so in case there is a building evacuation.