



Venue and safety information for school group visits to Geoscience Australia

Reviewed April 2023

Child Safety

- We make every reasonable effort to provide a safe and comfortable environment for visiting students and teachers.
- All Geoscience Australia Education Centre staff are registered under the ACT Government's Working with Vulnerable People scheme and hold a current first aid certificate.
- Geoscience Australia and school supervising staff both have responsibilities for the duty of care for visitors.
- In exercising its duty of care, Geoscience Australia staff will:
 - take every reasonable effort to ensure the environment is free from hazards
 - not be responsible for supervising children in school groups
 - respond to and resolve any incident caused by or impacting Geoscience Australia
 - abide by the following Code of Conduct:
 - Do not engage in or promote contact with children outside the professional setting.
 - Do not accept gifts from or give gifts to children. This does not exclude staff from giving prizes and giveaways provided they are given transparently and equitably.
 - Do not engage in behaviour (such as talk, touch or preferential treatment) that could be perceived to be inappropriate or favouring a particular child.
 - As far as possible, do not allow yourself to be alone with a child.
 - Do not take photos of children without permission from their supervisor/parent/guardian.
- In exercising their duty of care, school supervising staff are expected to:
 - supervise the children for which they are responsible
 - supervise students around all roads
 - respond to and resolve any incident not caused by or impacting Geoscience Australia
 - inform Geoscience Australia or security staff of any hazard that comes to their attention
 - consider excluding physically unwell children from visiting Geoscience Australia, as recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council
 - follow Geoscience Australia staff instructions in the event of an emergency or evacuation
 - direct any complaint about a child-safety issue or incident at Geoscience Australia to the Chief Finance and Human Resources Officer.

Access and facilities

- Buses and private vehicles should arrive via the visitors' car park - off Jerrabomberra Avenue, Symonston, ACT. If you are delayed for a booked visit, please contact reception on 02 6249 9111.
 - Bus drivers are requested to drop-off and pick-up students directly in front of the building and then park in the designated bus bays.
- Public toilets including disabled facilities are available in the building foyer.
- First aid facilities and equipment are available.
- Geoscience Australia has appropriate Public Liability Insurance in place to cover injury and damage.
- A manual wheelchair is available on request.
- Fire exits are clearly marked and Geoscience Australia complies with all fire control regulations and has appropriate emergency procedures in place.
- The café, Blackstone Cafe, is situated to the rear of the foyer area, and is available for light refreshments (group bookings required 02 6249 9149).
- Please provide us with details of any special needs or concerns you may have prior to your arrival.

Further information

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