

School Visits

May 2018

Induction topics

Schools study local history in Grade 2

Age approx seven

be aware these groups are fairly excited about being in the lighthouses

The only toilet on site is in the Signal Station and hand washing in the kitchenette. There is also limited water pressure.

A proportion of people do not like heights, and this can be an issue in the old lighthouse. There is a chalk cross on the floor where the stair and steep ladder leading to the trapdoor to the lantern can be seen. If people show signs of concern do not encourage them to proceed.

Ants - watch out for nests in the grass

Make use of adults & teachers with the group.

Lighthouses members do not necessarily have Blue Cards.

Use teachers and parents with the group such that members are not put in a situation alone with children.

Do not take photos unless authorised.

Photos to be published to be cleared with the school first.

Old Lighthouse

Generally do not access the balcony on the old lighthouse.

Leave hats bags etc on the ground floor. Hands need to be free

Signal Station

Special warning about leaning over and dropping objects from the Signal Station balcony.

Timing:

Groups of up to 36 can be split into two, with one group visiting the Signal Station while the others tour the old lighthouse and see the lens in the generator shed so allow about 45 minutes for this.

Activities include:

The **1968 Signal Station** is accessed by a 47 step winding stair and can take 16 visitors plus guides. Visitors can access the balcony and four sets of binoculars are available. Inside there is a 27" computer and we have some short videos and photos. This is a good time for questions. We do not access the roof/lantern area for operational reasons (access by external ladder). This tour takes about 20 minutes

The old **1896 lighthouse** has three levels. The top (lantern) level can only house 3 children, a guide and teacher/parent. We can load the first floor with the next three heading for the lantern so the max there is six children plus teacher/parent. There is more space on the ground floor and photos mounted. Allow about 10 minutes per group of three. Generally school visits do not access the balcony due to time constraints and safety concerns, although the public do have access there on open days. For large groups it may be better to access the ground floor only - Children can be encouraged to revisit on an open day with their parents

The brick **generator shed** houses a lighthouse lens of the type installed originally in the 1896 lighthouse. (4th order fixed lens) It is in the old battery room and is sufficiently dark to demonstrate its operation with a torch. Suitable for about 5-6 children at a time and takes about 5 - 10 minutes

There is space in front of the information sign which can form the basis of an activity.