Nottingham Contemporary

Weekday Cross
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www.nottinghamcontemporary.org

Information for Visiting Groups

Gallery 1: Julia Isídrez
Gallery 2 and 3: Sarah Cunningham

Advance Booking

Our gallery is free of charge to visit. However, we need your support and ask you to consider donating. Your donations make it possible to keep doing everything we do: from our world-leading exhibitions to our activities for families, young people and schools. We do ask groups to book in advance so we can help plan your visit and ensure a safe environment. More information is here: Book Your Visit - Nottingham Contemporary

Arrival

Our main entrance is through automatic double glass doors on High Pavement. On arrival, please go to reception and a member of our team will welcome your group.

Transport and Parking

The gallery can be reached by public transport. Lace Market is the nearest tram stop and there are several bus stops close by. Please contact Nottingham City Transport for buses or NET for trams to check routes and arrange concessional group travel - https://www.nctx.co.uk/customer-services/travel-centre/ and http://www.thetram.net/contact.aspx

If you are arriving by coach/minibus, please note we do not have on-site parking, however you can use the curb side short stay bay for drop off only. Blue badge holders may park in the bay outside the main entrance. There is coach parking nearby; please call 0115 915 3783 for up-to-date information, rates and bookings before you visit. The nearest paid for secure public car park is Lace Market Car Park and Broadmarsh Car Park. See https://parking.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/ for details.

Access

We are working to make Nottingham Contemporary more accessible. We are an accessible building with step free (street level) access and lifts. We have accessible toilets on the level 3 and a Changing Places toilet with a changing bed. Service dogs are welcome throughout. Portable folding stools are available to use in the galleries, and a wheelchair is available to use around the building. Hearing loops are fitted in our reception and in The Space. Available from our reception desk are children's and adult's ear defenders, coloured overlays, and magnifiers. Communication cards are available from the reception desk or on our website to print at home or to use with a mobile phone or tablet. Our team are always happy to support with access requirements – please do get in touch. Our full access statement can be viewed online or ask the team for a printed copy. https://www.nottinghamcontemporary.org/visit/access-and-facilities/.

Facilities
Lockers are available and are operated by a £1 coin (a group of 30 would need approximately three lockers for bags and coats etc.). We have limited lunch space available – please get in touch and book ahead of your visit.

Toilets are on level 3, our basement floor. We have accessible toilets, gendered and all gender toilets, and a changing place facility. If appropriate, please accompany visitors to the toilet entrance - it would be greatly appreciated if group leaders could do a quick check of the toilets after your group has used them and let the team know if additional cleaning or a restock is required.

Group Leader Ratios
When visiting as part of a group, we request the following group ratios to be maintained:
1 adult member of staff or helper per 4 Early Years Foundation students
1 adult member of staff or helper per 6 KS1 students and per 8 KS2 students
1 adult member of staff or helper per 10 Secondary School students
1 adult member of staff per community group (visitors aged 18+)

Exhibition Information
A3 written exhibition notes (in English) are provided at the entrance of the gallery; these can be taken freely. Large print panels (in English) on gallery walls introduce the artists and their artwork. Our gallery assistants are on hand to answers any questions you might have too. The notes are also available in large print, dyslexia friendly and audio formats. They are available in the gallery and online.

Resources
We offer free resources and notes to support your visit. Please book prior to arrival. Resources contain practical activities and discussion prompts designed to support self-led visits for all ages. They are available online here, Educational Group Visits - Nottingham Contemporary. Sensory bags are also available in reception.

Gallery Conduct
We encourage visitors to move around and explore works from different angles and to talk and take part in group activities. You are welcome to borrow Ferby pencils, paper and clipboards; please contact us in advance so we can provide these. Our Gallery Assistants welcome questions and conversations. They may also remind visitors to be careful around artworks. Some works of art damage easily so please advise your group not to touch the artworks on display and take care when moving around. We encourage groups to use their senses – what they can see, hear, smell and feel! Please do not eat or drink in studio one or the galleries or lean on the walls. Photography - no flash, is possible in all galleries.

Risk Assessment, Safeguarding, Access and Exhibition Content
We advise you complete your own planning and risk assessment prior to visiting. Our team are happy to discuss and plan a visit with you. Below you will find more information about the artworks and gallery spaces to consider within your risk assessment. All works can be viewed easily from a wheelchair. Wall labels and other exhibition information is accessible from a wheelchair. Gallery stools and visitor wheelchairs are available from reception.

Gallery 1: Advised capacity 15 pupils + adults

There are 4 tiered wooden plinths – 1 in the centre of the room and 3 around the edge. Two of these have benches built into them. Take care with the edges of the benches and as artworks are exposed ensure your group is mindful of not touching any of the artwork. We encourage pupils to use the schools resources to support with this.

Galleries 2 and 3: Capacity max 15 pupils in each gallery + adults.

Gallery 2: There are multiple stretched oil on canvas paintings. These are unframed, unglazed, mounted on walls with no barriers. It is a dark room with spotlighting.

Gallery 3: The room is brightly lit. There is a large-scale painting suspended from a wooden baton that has clamps at the top. The benches in here are carved wooden logs, sanded smooth with an oil finish, not varnished. These are not secured to the floor but are heavy and stable.

Studio 1: Advised capacity 30 pupils + adults

Studio 1 is a learning space for group leaders to use to brief groups, leave coats and bags and do creative activities. There is a large blackboard wall with chalks and a drawing activity prompt.
The studio is not locked but we do have lockers available. The space is reasonably well lit.

There are 4 tables with a mix of bench and chair seating which can seat between 6-8 people each. There is also a floor seating area with mats. We encourage young people to add their creations to our mural – materials are available.

There are multiple ceiling-mounted spotlights, a projector and 2x wall-mounted speakers, a media-player, sound and lighting desk with laptop stored in a lockable cupboard. There is a mat attached with tape to the floor that could be a trip hazard. The mural on the painted chalkboard has a cord barrier around it that could be a trip hazard.