



Venue and safety information for school group visits to Geoscience Australia

Reviewed September 2024

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 differing responsibilities for the duty of care for visitors.
- In exercising its duty of care, Geoscience Australia staff will:
 - make 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 identifiable 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 whom they are responsible
 - supervise students around all roads and crossings
 - 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.
- 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 of visitors prior to your arrival. If you have any concerns you wish to discuss, please feel free to contact us.

Geoscience Australia has appropriate [Public Liability Insurance](#) in place to cover injury and damage.

Further information

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