

BARBER SCHOOLS

**Information
and Frequently
Asked Questions**



our collection, your interpretation

How can I book a visit?

All visits, guided or self guided must be booked in advance via our online enquiry form, found on our Barber Schools webpage.

This includes giving us information on your school, year group, student numbers and if you have students with any learning or access requirements.

Please book with as much notice as possible. We require at least three weeks advance notice to check our availability and to confirm your visit with you.

Galleries are open to the public from 10am-5pm Tuesday – Sunday. As we share our galleries with the public and the University of Birmingham, bookings are subject to availability.

Our maximum group size is 30 students. Our teacher/student Ratio for Secondary Schools is 1:15

All groups must be accompanied by their supporting teacher at all times

Please read our Onsite Learning & Engagement Risk Assessment before you visit.

How do I travel to you?

The Barber is located at the East Gate of the Edgbaston campus at the University of Birmingham. More information on how to find us can be found on our website, [here](#).

The Barber is just three miles from the centre of Birmingham – we encourage our visitors to use public transport, walk, or cycle where possible.

Coaches and mini buses are welcome to drop-off groups as you enter the East Gate, just outside the building. If you wish to park your coach/mini bus for the duration of your visit you will need to liaise with the University of Birmingham's parking team:

Email: carparking@bham.ac.uk
Telephone: 0121 414 2623 and 0121 414 5946

What facilities are there onsite?

As the Barber is a Grade 1 listed building we work within unique and inspiring spaces. We aim to support you to have a

safe and comfortable visit from start to finish:

Catering:

Unfortunately, we do not have any spaces to eat lunch onsite. A range of catering outlets are available onsite at the University of Birmingham and we encourage you to make use of the outside grounds of the [Green Heart](#), just a five minute walk from the Barber, for packed lunches and seating.

Toilets:

Male (2) and female (3) public toilets are available on the ground floor, and an all gender accessible toilet is available on the first floor gallery level by request.

Level Access and Lift:

The main entrance to the Barber is accessed by a flight of 13 shallow steps with a central hand rail. Alternative level access is available on request. The galleries are on the first floor and are accessed by a flight of 31 shallow steps with hand rails either side. A lift

is available by request for those visitors who require it, including wheelchair-users, visitors with mobility issues or with buggies. Please make sure you let our team know when booking if you require level access to the building or lift access.

What can I expect when I arrive?

Please arrive as close to your booked arrival time as possible where a member of our Learning & Engagement Team will meet you in the foyer on arrival. If self-guided, this will include how you can safely navigate our site as a group and a brief history of the Barber and our collection.

What can I expect when I'm in the galleries?

Our first floor galleries are home to our collection. Here you will find paintings, sculpture, works on paper (prints and drawings) and coins, all displayed across four gallery spaces.

Our Lady Barber Galleries opens periodically throughout the year,

displaying our temporary exhibitions. You can find out more about our upcoming exhibitions, [here](#).

Our friendly Visitor Services Team are always present in the galleries to support you and answer any queries and questions.

How much time should I allow?

We want you to enjoy the galleries at your own pace, so there is no specific time limit for your visit after you have received your welcome talk in our foyer. We estimate that most groups would like up to an hour to enjoy the galleries fully.

Gallery Conduct:

Students are welcome to use pencils and sketchbooks to record their observations in the gallery.

Please do not use any wet materials, chalks or oil pastels in the galleries.

Please do not touch the artworks or any objects in the galleries.

Photography without flash is permitted in gallery spaces. A small number of artworks cannot be photographed due to copyright-please look for the non-photography symbol on the gallery label or ask a member of the gallery team

Food or drink are not allowed in the galleries.

Large backpacks cannot be taken into the galleries and we have limited spaces to store bags and coats. Unfortunately we cannot offer any secure storage for coats and bags. We therefore encourage you to travel as light as possible on your visit or to leave non-essential belongings at school/on the coach.

How can I amend my booking or chat to the team?

If there are any changes to your booking please contact us via email: learning@barber.org.uk