



Essential Information for A LEVEL GEOLOGY ACTIVITIES

A. Safety

Students must be accompanied by the appropriate number of adults as the School/College is responsible for the behaviour and safety of their students. Ecton Tutors are not necessarily qualified in First Aid, which will remain the responsibility of the School. All EHFSAs Tutors have a certificate of DBS clearance. The Salt's Level adit of the mine is subject to all statutory requirements of a mine and health and safety inspections comply with these statutes.

B. Insurance and Risk Assessment

Each EHFSAs Tutor has insurance cover while undertaking leader duties in the field of outdoor education and ancillary activities. The indemnity cover is up to £5,000,000. A link to a copy of the [Insurance Certificate](#) is in: [VISITS TO ECTON - DOCUMENTATION](#), below the link to this document.

The School/College should have insurance cover for school and personal property.

A link to the current [Risk Assessment](#) for these activities is in: [VISITS TO ECTON - DOCUMENTATION](#).

C. Clothing and Footwear

All EHFSAs courses incorporate a variety of out-of-doors and underground activities. Ecton Hill is exposed to the weather and can feel cold and windy even in summer. The weather is often very changeable, so come prepared whatever the forecast says! Underground the temperature is a consistent 11°C, which feels cold in the summer. Therefore it is important that visitors bring warm weatherproof clothing, even in summer. Sturdy, waterproof footwear with treaded soles, that will provide grip in wet conditions, is essential; walking boots with Vibram-type soles are ideal. Normal shoes and "fashion" trainers are not appropriate. The EHFSAs Tutor has the right to refuse to take a group on the hill if they are not safely equipped for the day conditions on the day. Please consider the weather forecast and be prepared.

D. Student Equipment

Each student should have a printed copy of the appropriate worksheets from our website and a pen/pencil. For Geology visits, students are asked to bring their usual geological gear, i.e. field notebook, clipboard, compass, clinometer, tape measure, dilute hydrochloric acid in drop-per bottle, sharp pencils, calculator, protractor, graph paper etc. Hard hats can be provided if required. It would also be useful if each student had a copy of the Map of Ecton Hill (GW1 SS1) and the Salts Level Base Map [GW IS (C6)]. They would probably also appreciate the "answer sheet" [GW IS (C7)] when they return to base.

E. Visitor Information Form and Safety Instructions

It is very important that you bring the completed [Visitor Information Form](#) with the details of each student: see [VISITS TO ECTON - DOCUMENTATION](#). The Medical condition column needs to be completed for everyone. If you bring a First-Aider, please include the name of that person.

The [Safety Instructions](#) page follows the [Visitor information Form](#) and, if the names are typed on the Visitor Information Form, they will appear on the Safety Instructions form.

F. Parking

Do not use Satellite Navigation to try to get to the Centre – the postcode will take you to the top of Ecton Hill. Use the "Google" link" on the *Contact Us* page of the website or one of the other alternatives.



Please leave your vehicle in the lay-by on the road (at the foot of the mine dumps at SK097584) and walk back towards Mintlyn house at the roadside, turn right just before the house, through the five-barred gate, marked "Peak District National Park – Private" and along the track through the dumps to arrive at the Centre, next to but before, the house with the green copper spire on the hillside above the road. Before leaving your vehicle, place all possessions out of sight. EHFSA cannot accept liability for the loss of personal property.

G. Refreshments

Tea, coffee and water are provided. Visitors need to provide their own packed lunches and other drinks which should be brought up to the Centre.

H. Emergency Cancellation or problems

If there is a problem during the week prior to the course telephone:

- the course tutor or
- Susan Wilkinson (01732 456997) or
- Dr R Thompson (01889 882363) or

Please note that there is no mobile reception at Ecton. A landline (01298 84522) is installed at the centre and it would be helpful, on the day of the visit, to phone the Centre if your group is delayed for any reason.

I. Overnight Accommodation

If an overnight stay is necessary there are three local Youth Hostels (www.yha.org.uk):

- Hartington Hall 5 minute drive to the east - 0870 770 5848
- Ilam Hall 15 minute drive to the south east - 0870 770 5876
- Gradbach Mill 15 minute drive to the north west - 0870 770 5834