



Tower Tours Safety Policy

All Saints' Church, Walsoken

Please refer to Church document H&S_Doc_001 for all General Health & Safety requirements

Specific Policy

This Health & Safety (H&S) sub-policy controls the safety for tower tours at church.

Reference Documents

The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974

Procedure

The organiser must ensure that the following rules are in place for tower tours. This safety policy details rules for bell tower tours to the bell ringing platform where 'chiming' of one bell is planned. These rules are the result of experience of previous tour activity and are consistent with best practice.

- 1) The maximum number on the bell tower platform at any one time will not exceed 8, including stewards.
- 2) No children under the age of 8 are allowed up the tower stairs. Children under the age of 16 should be accompanied by an adult responsible for them.
- 3) All large items of baggage will be left at ground level so that each visitor can have both 'hands-free'.
- 4) A minimum of 2 stewards will escort parties to the bell ringing platform. One steward will be at the rear.
- 5) One tour will be completed before another starts.
- 6) The stairs are spiral and uneven. Care must be taken and no 'running' is allowed.
- 7) Sensible shoes must be worn for the tour.
- 8) It may not be suitable to climb this tower for those people who may be.
 - a. Elderly.
 - b. Infirm.
 - c. Disabled.
 - d. Pregnant.
 - e. Suffering from heart complaints.
 - f. Suffering from respiratory disorders.
 - g. Suffering from a medical condition that may be adversely affected by the climb.*In these situations, each condition will be talked through confidentially with the sufferer to ensure fair treatment.*
- 9) A rope handrail is available for guidance up the tower along with adequate lighting.
- 10) There is no public access to the tower roof (spire) or any level higher than the bell ringing platform without prior arrangement.
- 11) Bells may be chimed at the guidance of the stewards.
- 12) There is no horseplay allowed on the bell ringing platform, including
 - a. Shouting.
 - b. Leaning over the rail.
 - c. Dropping items.
 - d. Touching the ropes without permission.
- 13) It is UK law that there is no smoking or in Church.

Forms

None

Diagrams

None

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Appendices

None

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