Overview of COVID-safety measures in place at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

**Autumn Term 2021**

These guidelines will be reviewed regularly in line with any changes to advice around COVID safety. If you have any questions or would like to book a pre-visit consultation with our team ahead of your visit, please email us at learning@zsl.org

Our full Risk Assessment can be found here: [www.zsl.org/education/risk-assessment](http://www.zsl.org/education/risk-assessment)

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**SPECIFIC TO EDUCATIONAL GROUPS**

➢ Once you have booked your trip you are entitled to a free preliminary visit to the zoo (one teacher per class). We strongly recommend this so you can familiarise yourself with the zoo. We are also able to offer a pre-visit consultation with you over the phone or via video call. If your group is larger than 90 students, all your students have additional needs, or you have a workshop booked, a pre-visit consultation will be automatically included in your trip, but they are available to any groups upon request.

➢ All education groups must pre-book & pre-pay. This will minimise congregation at zoo entrance and time spent entering the zoo.

➢ Educational groups will be greeted at the zoo visitor centre (not the car park) and proceed into the zoo with staff/volunteer to minimise congregation.

➢ To stop congregation of school groups at the entrance you will be directed to the nearest ones inside the zoo, instead of using those outside.

➢ Students aged 16 or under must always be with a designated adult from your school. Students aged 17-18 do not need to be with an adult at all times, but school staff must be in the zoo and contactable during the trip and students’ behaviour should be in line with zoo expectation (please see behaviour guidelines on pre-visit section of website)

➢ School groups will be asked to ensure that no student or accompanying adult has tested positive for, or is exhibiting symptoms of, Covid-19, or has been asked to self-isolate.

➢ If a student becomes unwell during the visit, please inform a member of ZSL staff immediately. The student can be isolated with a designated adult from your group until you have arranged for them to be taken home.

**WORKSHOPS: Anyone 11 years or over must wear face masks, unless exempt**

- Any adults and students aged over 11 will be asked to wear facemasks when participating in indoor workshops and when it is not possible to distance in outdoor workshops.
- ZSL staff and volunteers in the workshops will wear a facemask throughout the workshop.
- Students and adults are required to wash or sanitise their hands before and after the workshop.

Please note, our workshops are held in indoor and outdoor spaces.
If you have a preference for outdoor locations, please discuss this with the learning team at the time of booking.
APPLICABLE TO ALL VISITORS

➢ Current information is displayed on our [website](#) about our COVID safety measures.

➢ All visitors aged 11 and over must wear a face mask, unless they are exempt, in our inside areas including walkthrough exhibits (the areas where visitors share the same space as our animals) our retail spaces, catering spaces, and indoor exhibits.

➢ Handwashing and sanitiser stations are located across the zoo.

LAST UPDATED: December 2021