

7.9 Parents (or those with parental responsibility)

7.9.1 Parents or those with parental responsibility, should be able to make an informed decision as to whether their child should go on the visit. However, in the interests of the overall safety and success of the visit the ultimate decision as to who participates rests with those involved in organising the visit.

7.9.2 The Group Leader should ensure that parents are given sufficient information in writing and are invited to a briefing session, where appropriate.

Parents should :

- sign the consent form
- provide the Group Leader with an emergency contact number(s)
- provide the Group Leader with relevant medical/dietary details, including any medication currently being taken in writing (by means of the consent form) and any other relevant information (about their child's emotional, psychological and physical health) which may affect their participation in the visit
- help prepare their child for the visit, for example, by reinforcing the visit's code of conduct (see section 8)
- agree the arrangements established for a member of the group returning home due to unforeseen circumstances.

7.9.3 Special arrangements may be necessary for parents who have particular or special needs, for example, those who are hearing impaired or whose first language is not English.

7.10 Responsibilities of Young People

7.10.1 The Group Leader should, when briefing the young people, make it clear that they too have important responsibilities. This should be appropriate to the age and development level of the young people.

Young people should:

- act in accordance with the established code of conduct at all times
- avoid taking unnecessary risks (see section 8 & appendix 6)
- follow the instructions of the Group Leader, and leaders, including those at the venue of the visit
- dress and behave sensibly and responsibly
- respect the property of others
- be sensitive to local codes, customs, and the environment
- look out for anything that might hurt or threaten them or anyone in the group and tell a leader of their concern

7.10.2 Where appropriate, young people should be fully involved in the planning process.

7.10.3 General guidance for young people in relation to their safety on educational visits is included in Appendix 6. Further consideration may need to be given to this matter when dealing with young people with special needs.