My visit to York Castle Museum

I am going to visit York Castle Museum

This is a photo of the outside of the museum.
This the Reception area

I will walk past this when I come in.

There will always be staff here in purple shirts if I need them.
There are people that can help me when I am in the museum. These people are called museum guides.

Museum guides wear purple shirts and a name badge.

If I have a question when I am at the museum I can ask the museum guides. It is fine to talk to them.

The museum has two different sides and lots of different galleries in each side. I might not visit them all but that is fine – I can always come back another day if I want to.
There are a lot of stairs in the museum, but one side also has a lift if I want to use it.

There are toilets on both sides of the museum.

There are lots of things I must not touch in the museum. If I don’t know what I can or can’t touch, I can ask the adult I came with or a museum guide.

I won’t get in trouble if I make a mistake but I must try to remember to ask.
The area in between the two sides has a café and a shop.

I might want to buy something in the shop or have something to eat or drink in the café.

If I want to eat my own food there are seats outside the front of the museum – I can’t eat my own food in the café.
The museum can be a busy place. There might be lots of other children there when I visit and it might be very noisy.

If I don’t like the noise I can tell the adult I came with or a museum guide. They can show me somewhere quieter.

I must not leave the area where the people I came with are. This is so they know where I am and I am safe. If I don’t know where my adult is I can ask a museum guide and they will help me.
This is the start of the Female Prison side of the museum. It is called the Female Prison as that is what the building used to be a long time ago.
In the Female Prison building I can see some old rooms. They aren’t real rooms, just pretend, but everything in them is old.
I can also see the Toy Stories gallery. There are lots of toys here I cannot touch, but the area at the end of the gallery has toys I can play with if I want to. If I don’t want to play with them it is ok just to look.

I can also see the Shaping the Body galleries. These are spaces looking at how our clothes, food and lives have changed over the past 300 years.

I can try on some clothes here if I want to and see how I look in the mirror (one mirror will make me look funny, the other is a normal mirror).
The last gallery I can see on this side of the museum is Kirkgate. Kirkgate looks like a real street, but it is inside!

It can be a bit dark and noisy here, but if I don’t like it, the end of Kirkgate is much lighter and quieter.

The museum guides here don’t wear purple shirts – they dress like Victorian people!
This is the start of the Debtor’s Prison side of the museum. It is called the Debtor’s Prison as that is what the building used to be a long time ago. (A debtor is someone that owed someone else money).
In the Debtor’s Prison I can see lots of objects and information about World War One.

There is a pretend trench I can crawl through if I want to, but if I don’t want to, that’s ok.
Next I will see the exercise yard. This is where the prisoners that lived here did their exercise.

I can also see an outside space and can visit a grassy area by an old mill if I want to.
I can go into the 1960s gallery next.

This area has music playing.
At the end of the 1960s gallery I can go into the old prison. It is dark and can be a bit noisy in there, so if I don’t want to go in, I don’t have to.

If I don’t want to go in, I can go back the way I came, but rather than going upstairs, I can go move the blue rope and go through (or ask a guide for help).
The end of the prison is lighter and quieter.

After the prison area I’ll end up back at the shop again. I might choose to go to the café or the shop now, or it might be time to leave the museum.