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Autism Friendly Pre-Visit Guide for F.E. McWilliam Gallery & Studio.

Everyone feels different when trying something new. There are new sights, sounds and smells, you may not know what to expect.

Location of F.E. McWilliam Gallery



F.E. McWilliam Gallery can be accessed by car and on foot. Car Parking is available at the front and side of the building.

As you enter the grounds of the F.E. McWilliam Gallery you will see the front entrance.





At F.E. McWilliam Gallery we have an exhibition gallery, a café, a craft shop and a sculpture garden outside to the rear of the building.

Entrance hall

As you enter the building you will hear voices from the café area and the kitchen where crockery and cutlery will be in constant use. You will also smell food and coffee.



Toilet entrance

The first thing you will pass as you enter the building are the toilets to your right. The toilets are cleaned daily and may smell of chemicals especially first thing in the morning.



Reception desk



On arrival speak to a member of staff and they will advise you where you should go.

The exhibition gallery



The exhibition space is open plan, air conditioned and usually quiet and still, however, depending on the exhibition that is showing, there might be music playing, voice recordings talking, projected images, moving structures etc. Please ask at reception if you have any specific concerns. We have a gallery guide based in the gallery every day who can assist you if required.

The café – Quails at the Gallery



Our café is large and can be noisy with people talking, music playing and plates and cups rattling. Some parts of the café are quieter than others. Just ask our café staff to be seated as per your requirements.



Outside space: The sun terrace



Our café leads out through electronic doors to our sun terrace and sculpture garden. In the good weather we have tables and chairs outside for people to sit and enjoy their drinks and meals.

The sculpture garden



There is lots of space outside in our garden to explore or to sit, relax and enjoy the sculptures and plants. Some traffic noise can be heard from the road adjacent to the garden but is generally not too loud.

The studio



Also in the garden you will find a small building, part of which is a replica of the studio that FE McWilliam used. You can go inside and see small maquettes of his work.

This space is air conditioned and a slight humming noise might be heard.

For assistance during your visit, please speak to a member of staff at reception.

