Terms and Conditions of Academic Membership

- Academic Membership is available to not-for-profit educational groups whose members, pupils, or students are in full-time education. Hestercombe Gardens Trust reserves the right to make the final decision on whether a group falls within this definition.
- All visits must be booked at least seven days in advance by emailing chrissmith@hestercombe.com
- Academic membership entitles the holder to free admission only in normal school hours in term time only.
- Academic Membership is only valid during Hestercombe's normal opening hours Summer: 10am – 6pm, last entry at 5pm
- Winter: 10am 5pm, last entry at 4pm
- If a workshop is required, there may be an additional charge per pupil/student.
- Academic Membership is valid for 12 months from date of issue. A reminder will be sent a month before renewal is due then an invoice will be raised accordingly.
- For your legal protection, all education groups must provide evidence that they have public liability insurance with a minimum £5M indemnity limit when they take out Academic Membership, and must ensure their insurance cover is valid when they visit.
- Group leaders may make a free, preparatory visit to a property for planning purposes. These visits must be booked in advance and any accompanying adults or children are subject to normal admission rates.
- Failure to comply with these terms and conditions may result in Academic Membership being revoked without refund.
- Purchasing Membership constitutes acceptance of these terms & conditions.

Group supervision

For primary aged children we require one accompanying adult for every eight pupils.

For secondary and tertiary we require one adult for every fifteen pupils or students. For all educational organisations a minimum of two supervising adults per group are required.

Groups with additional needs or undertaking specialised activities need to have higher numbers of accompanying adults, to be confirmed with the place at the time of booking.

The number and size of groups admitted to a site at any one time are at the discretion of Hestercombe Gardens Trust.