A resource to prepare you for your visit to Fulham Palace

Your pre-visit visual story
Welcome to Fulham Palace House & Garden
These are the main gates to the Palace.

To get to the Palace, you will probably walk through the park which is often busy with people, who might be jogging or walking their dogs.
Part way down the path, there is a purple sign. It is near a nursery school, so sometimes this area is noisy and busy.

Around the Palace there are more purple information signs. You can also ask one of our friendly volunteers with a purple name badge for help.
This is the main wooden door. Sometimes this door is open and sometimes it is closed. During opening times, you can go inside.

To go straight to the garden, you can follow the path right.
Visual story
Courtyard and fountain

When the water fountain in the courtyard is turned on, you will be able to hear the water.
Visual story
Museum door

The door to the museum is on your left. During opening hours, the door will be open and you can walk in. You don’t need to ring the doorbell.
There will always be a volunteer at the visitor reception to welcome you. All volunteers wear a purple name badge. The volunteer might be busy, but they are very friendly and happy to answer any questions you have. You don’t need to buy a ticket to visit the museum.
The gift shop always has a staff member or volunteer here.

There is a video playing on a loop in the background, which lasts four minutes. You can sit down to watch it.

On the back wall, is a map with buttons to light up different areas of the Palace.
The rooms of the museum are very old, so the floorboards may creak when you walk on them. Inside the museum, the lights are quite bright. Continue your visit by going through the brick arch on the left. The toilets are this way.
The corridor has quite a loud echo, so if there are other visitors talking you might be able to hear them.

The glass cases in this corridor are about archaeology, so they contain some things like animal bones.
The toilets are single cubicles. There is an accessible disabled toilet and a gender neutral toilet (anyone can use this toilet).
The green room has a video playing on a loop. There is a timer counting down to the next showing of the film. When it isn’t playing you can hear the machine whirring.

If you like, you can take some seeds from the white box on the left to plant at home. You can also look inside the trunks.
The next room is the temporary exhibition room, so this might look different when you visit.

There may be interactive exhibits in this room. If you are unsure if you can touch something, ask the gallery assistant for help.
Bishop Sherlock’s room is the first historical room you will come to.

You can play the piano if you want to have a go!

There is a big, bright chandelier.

On the far side of the room, there is a touch-screen with more information about the room. This room is quite quiet.
Visual story

Great hall

The great hall is very old, so avoid touching the walls.

You can sit on the wooden chair and get someone to take your photo though!
In the corridor opposite the great hall there are more toilets. These have several cubicles. There are male and female toilets.
Along the corridor is the chapel. It is quite cold because the walls are made of thick stone.

Recorded organ music is playing on a loop. Our organ is very old so please do not play it, as it is delicate.

You can sit down in the chapel and rest, look at the art on the walls, or read some information.
In Bishop Terrick’s drawing and dining rooms you can sit on the chairs if you like. Sometimes you can’t go in these rooms because they are being set up for one of the exciting events that happen at Fulham Palace. A sign outside the room will tell you if you aren’t allowed in.
You can hear noise from the café all the way down the corridor.

The café is loud because people are chatting and having fun. People may be having meetings or taking a break during their visit.

You can buy a drink and a snack, perhaps even lunch.
Turning left through the café will take you to a darkened room. There is still a lot of noise from the café. Here, a video is being shown on a loop. You can sit down to watch the film. There are some flashing images and loud noises in the film.
Fulham Palace has a huge garden which has lots of space to spend time in. In the summer, this can be quite busy. Ball games, dogs, climbing trees and cycling aren’t allowed in the garden because it is a botanic garden with lots of special plants.
The walled garden is often less busy. You might see gardeners working (they wear purple shirts). The garden changes every season. Occasionally, planes fly overhead and make a lot of noise. You might also hear birds or gardening equipment, such as lawn mowers or leaf blowers.
There are three beehives in the walled garden. They are far away from the rest of the garden, so you don’t need to go near them if you don’t want to. If you want to see them, make sure you stay on the path and don’t cross the rope.
On your way back to Bishops’ Park there are two gender neutral toilet cubicles.
If you are visiting with your school, you will come to the education centre. Your class teacher will tell you what you will learn before you arrive. The Fulham Palace teacher will be very friendly and happy to meet you. You might have lunch here.
Your session will be in one of these two classrooms. There will be interesting objects in the room, set up for the session. You will probably sit on the floor around the rugs.

There is somewhere safe to hang your coat and bag when you arrive.
We look forward to seeing you soon!