

# Senedd

This is the main building of the National Assembly for Wales. It is free to get in.

Sometimes it can be very busy, especially if there is an event happening. You might want to call our information line on **0300 200 6565** to find out if there is an event going on when you plan to visit. You can also use that number to book a tour of the building.

The Senedd is busy when Assembly Members are meeting on Mondays to Thursdays. Fridays are usually quieter.

Is it a very light building and can be very noisy.

## Arrival - security

When you arrive at the Senedd, you will have to go through security. There may also be a police officer at the security desk. You will be asked to empty your pockets into a tray, take off your coat and put your bag through the scanner machine. Your belongings will be returned to you on the other side of the scanner. You are not allowed to bring some items, such as knives, guns or scissors into the building. Such items will be taken off you and, if appropriate, will be returned to you as you leave the building.

You will be asked to walk through an arch. This might beep if you have anything made of metal. If it beeps, you will be asked to stand on a special mat where a member of our security team will wave a wand around your body to see what made the arch beep. The wand will not touch your body.

If you or someone with you has autism, you can ask for the beep to be switched off.

## Neuadd

This is the main public space of the Senedd. If there is an event happening when you visit, the Neuadd may be very busy and very noisy. Some of these events will have food and drink. Unless you are invited to do so, please do not help yourself. The floor of the Senedd is made of slate and the walls are made of glass. This means that the building can be very light and very noisy.

There is a reception desk where you can ask staff for information. There is a loop system here for deaf people who use a hearing aid.

## Public galleries

You can go into the galleries to watch Assembly Members in their meetings. The galleries can be dark and when you look down into the meeting it can be uncomfortable for people who get dizzy. There is a loop system in each gallery and space for wheelchair users.

You can watch the meeting on the screens. You can touch these screens. You can use the headphones provided to listen to what is going on, but you cannot take them from the room.

There will be a barrier across the entrance if you are not allowed into the gallery.



Visiting members of the public must not:

- Be under the influence of alcohol or drugs;
- Cause offence to other visitors;
- Speak loudly or otherwise disrupt the meeting;
- Bring food or drink into the gallery.

## Toilets

We have a range of toilets available to visitors:

- Both the Male and Female toilets include a wider cubicle designed for people with mobility issues
- Our Changing Places facility includes an adult changing bed, hoist and accessible toilet with right and left transfer space.
- We have two additional wheelchair accessible toilets, one with right transfer space and one with left transfer space.
- Our baby changing room also has an accessible toilet.
- Visitors should be aware that there are no paper towels in the toilets and the hand dryers are loud.

## Oriel

The upstairs area is called the Oriel. There is a range of seating available and screens that you can touch. There is also a shop, café and a gallery of art. You are not allowed to touch the art.

You can look down into the debating chamber from this level. This might be uncomfortable for people who can get dizzy.

## Alarms

Every Tuesday and Wednesday at 13.20 and 13.25 there is a loud alarm for Assembly Members. You might want to avoid visiting at these times. If an alarm rings at any other time, a member of staff will tell you what to do and where to go.

## Quiet space

If you need a quiet space, you can ask our receptionist for somewhere to go.

