

Watch House Experience - Education



Social Script – for the families and teachers of students visiting The Old City Watch House that are on the Autism Spectrum.

What is the Watch House?

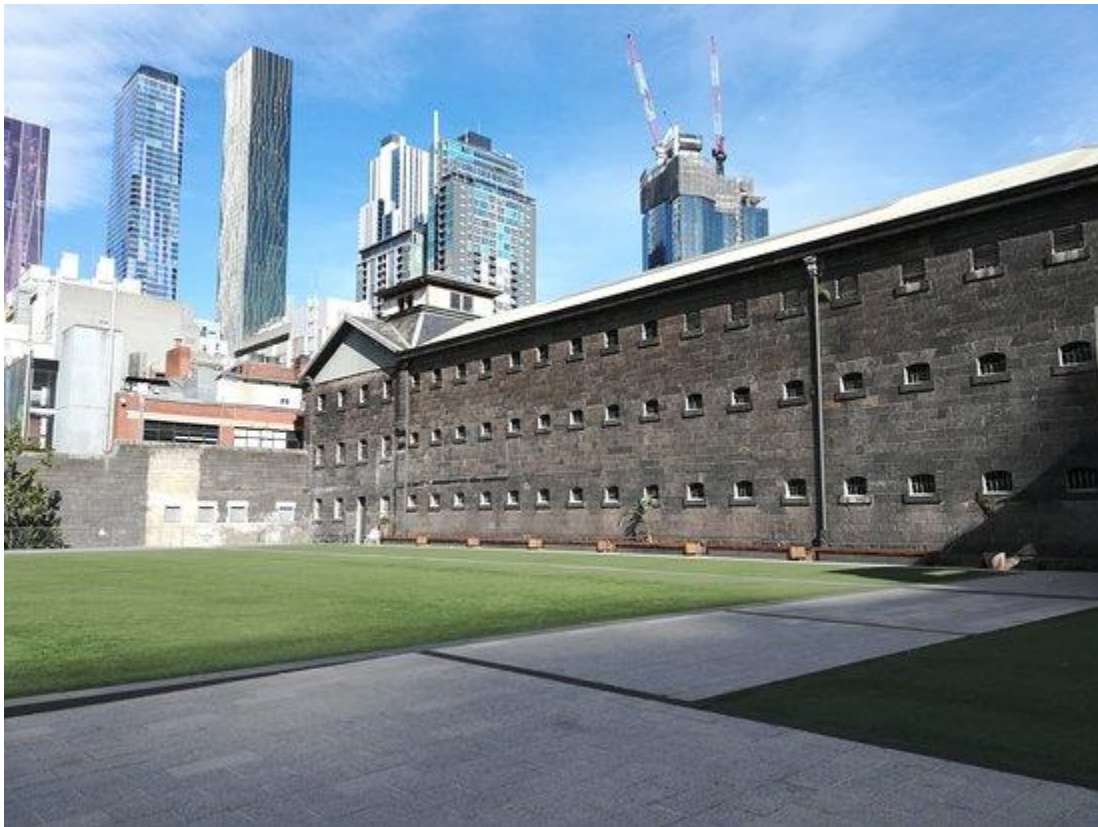
The Old City Watch House used to be a police lock up where people were taken after they were arrested. It isn't open anymore and no one is locked up there now. It is now a museum, and an actor shows you around. There is a long corridor with cells on each side.



Arrival

When I arrive at the Old Melbourne Gaol and get off the bus, I will stand away from the road and listen to what my teacher says.

We will walk through an archway into a courtyard with fake grass. It might be loud in the courtyard; I might be able to hear the traffic on the street.



Toilets

There are toilets in the courtyard, which can be accessed from a ramp. I always need to ask an adult before going to the toilet. The toilets have hand driers in them, they might be loud.



Lining up for the Watch House

When it is time for our experience, we will line up on Russell Street. I won't be allowed to use my phone when I go inside.



The actor

An actor dressed up as a police person will come out, they are not a real police person. The actor might shout, but they aren't angry with us, they are pretending.



The experience

When we go inside, we will have to line up in the cell block. The actor will tell us to do things like put our hands up to be searched. The actor won't touch us or lock us in any cells, I am safe.



Exploring the Watch House

At the end we can have a look around the cell block, the exercise yard and the women's section. I might see graffiti with rude words in it.



Rules

I won't run.

I will use a quiet voice when talking.

I won't touch any doors or walls.

I can also ask the actor any questions I have about the Watch House, but I must wait for my turn.



Leaving the Watch House

We will leave out of a side door back into the courtyard where we started.

