Thank you for joining us for Spring 2020 Homeschool Day! Please review these sensory tips for Homeschool Day on March 9! More information about visiting Mount Vernon can be found on our Frequently Asked Questions page.

**Entering Mount Vernon via the Ford Orientation Center:**

- When you arrive at Mount Vernon, please purchase admission at the ticket window. If you have purchased tickets online, then your group may proceed directly to enter the ford orientation center.
- A Mount Vernon staff member will inspect each bag upon entry to the estate. If anyone in your group has difficulty waiting, you are welcome to bring fidgets, music headphones, a manipulative toy or other equipment your child needs. If you do not bring a bag, you will not need to undergo bag inspection. View [bag inspection policy](#) and a list of prohibited items.
- The Ford Orientation Center is a large open space with big windows. Some of the floor spaces are marble and some are carpeted.
- This building can be incredibly busy and loud. Occasionally, announcements will be made on the speaker system.
- Please note the Welcome Orientation Program can be loud and crowded. This program is optional.

**Floor spaces and paths:**

- In the historic area, there are brick and gravel paths. Both the brick and gravel paths vary in evenness.
- If it is raining, the gravel path may become muddy and the bricks can be slippery.
- In Mansion, the floors guests pass through are carpeted. The first floor of the Mansion is wheelchair accessible. Additionally, portions of the second floor are dark and tight. If anyone in your group is not able to or is not comfortable with visiting the second floor, they may wait on the first floor.
- The buildings that guests pass through to exit the estate have both marble and carpeted floor spaces.
- Near the exit by the food court, the marble floor is in the design of a map of the estate.

**Quiet Spaces**

- For Homeschool Day, a sensory break space is available, if anyone in your party needs a quiet space for a break. Please note while this room should be quiet, it is a former theater space and is not a private room.
- A Mother’s Nursing Room is available for nursing mothers near the exit desk in the Education Center. Please ask staff for assistance. Please note the space is share with the first aid room.
Noise

- Mount Vernon has many animals, which may make noises without notice. Animals’ locations are noted on the Homeschool Day map should you wish to find them or avoid them during your visit.
- The Donald W. Reynolds Museum & Education Center exhibits have varying noise levels. Throughout both exhibits, there are films for guests to watch. Films such as Be Washington and the Revolutionary War Theater are extremely loud.

Lighting

- Light levels in the Museum & Education Center exhibits will vary in brightness. Some areas contain video, as well as flashing lights.
- Light levels in the Mansion will vary by time of day and season.

Restrooms

- Restrooms are available throughout the estate. Please note that the hand dryers in the restrooms are very loud.
- While there is no publicly available family/companion care restroom, two first aid rooms are available for guests who may need companion care. One is in the historic area and one is located near the estate exit by the Food Court Pavilion. Please ask a Mount Vernon staff member for access to either room.

Other safety information:

- Please note that the Pioneer Farm Site and the Wharf are adjacent to the bank of the Potomac River. In the interest of safety, guests are not permitted to step past the rope line along the riverbank. If you would like to avoid the river while visiting the farm, please consider approaching the farm via the guest shuttle and requesting to stop by the 16-sided barn. Alternatively, guests are welcome to use the Forest Trail, which is not wheelchair accessible.