

# *Advice and Etiquettes of Visiting the Mosque*

Whether visiting alone, or as a group, it is important to follow the guidelines for clothing and behaviour as a mark of respect for the place of worship and the worshippers

- Shoes are removed upon entering the Mosque or before going into the prayer hall and place on the shoe racks provided. Therefore, clean and presentable socks, stockings etc. are a good idea
- Clothing should be modest for both men and women. For women this means an ankle length skirt or trousers, which should not be tight or transparent, together with a long sleeved and high-necked top
- Women should wear a head covering e.g. a headscarf
- Do not offer, or expect to shake hands with people of the opposite gender
- When one of the five daily prayers is in progress or the Imam is delivering the Friday Sermon, visitors are welcome to observe only. Everyone must remain silent
- If visiting as a group whilst prayers are taking place or the Friday Sermon, enter the hall quietly. Sit together towards the rear of the hall avoiding pointing the feet in the direction of the Qiblah (the wall with the niche or alcove in it, indicating the direction of Makkah), unless a medical condition makes this the only possible posture
- For groups, it is important not to talk loudly, thus disturbing anyone who may be in prayer
- No photography is allowed without permission and please do not take photographs of any persons
- Please feel free to ask any questions