I’m going to an organ concert at Hereford Cathedral!

The cathedral is very old. It is one of the oldest buildings in Hereford.

It has always been used for services, but there are also special concerts and events held here sometimes.
This is what it will look like when I arrive at the main entrance:

There might be other people arriving at the same time as me, because they want to go to the concert too.

I don’t need to worry, because there are definitely enough seats for everybody.
When I arrive, a Steward will greet me. They will be wearing a Hereford Cathedral badge, like this:

The Steward will give me a list of all the pieces of music that are going to be played.
If I have any questions about the concert or the cathedral, I can ask the Steward when I arrive.

If I have any questions or worries during the concert, there will also be a Welcomer who is sitting at the Welcome Desk. They can help me if I need anything.
This is what the Cathedral looks like inside:

I can sit in any empty seat or pew, there aren’t any rules about who sits where.

Some people may not sit, they may just be walking around the cathedral. If I want to get up and walk around between pieces of music, that’s allowed too. The organist doesn’t mind.
The concert will start at 3:05pm.

At the beginning, Peter will introduce himself and welcome everyone to the concert.

Peter is the organist at Hereford Cathedral.

He will play lots of different pieces of organ music. At every concert he plays a different mix of pieces.
There is a camera that films Peter while he plays the organ. The video of him is shown live on a screen at the front of the cathedral, so we can watch him playing.
The concert will be finished by 3:30pm.

Peter will tell us when it is the end, and everyone will clap.

After the concert, I can look around the rest of the cathedral if I want to.

There are lots of interesting things to look at, like tombs and stained glass windows.
If the Cathedral is too noisy or busy for me at any point, I can go to one of our chapels. They are very quiet and calm.

The one nearest the pews is the Stanbury Chapel. It looks like this inside:

I can go there at any time, even during the concert.
There is a special map that shows me where all the Chapels and quiet places are.
As a Cathedral, we try to be as accessible and inclusive as possible.

We are the first place of worship to receive the Autism Friendly Award from the National Autistic Society.

We hold special Cathedral Quiet Hours, when noise in the Cathedral is kept to a minimum. These are held on the last Wednesday of the month, from 9am to 10am.

We also have a Social Story for visiting Hereford Cathedral on a normal day; that is available to download from our website.

If you have any other questions or comments about accessibility at Hereford Cathedral, please contact our Accessibility Ambassador: Sarah.Hollingdale@HerefordCathedral.org
Or 01432 374240