Take Shelter sensory map

Welcome to the only Second World War school air raid shelter open in the South.

This sensory map is designed to help you plan your or your child's visit to the shelter and identify areas that are busy, noisy or dark.

If you need further information before your visit, please contact us on: TakeShelter@downsjun.brighton-hove.sch.uk

If on site, please ask a member of staff if you need assistance during your visit.

Made possible with Heritage Fund

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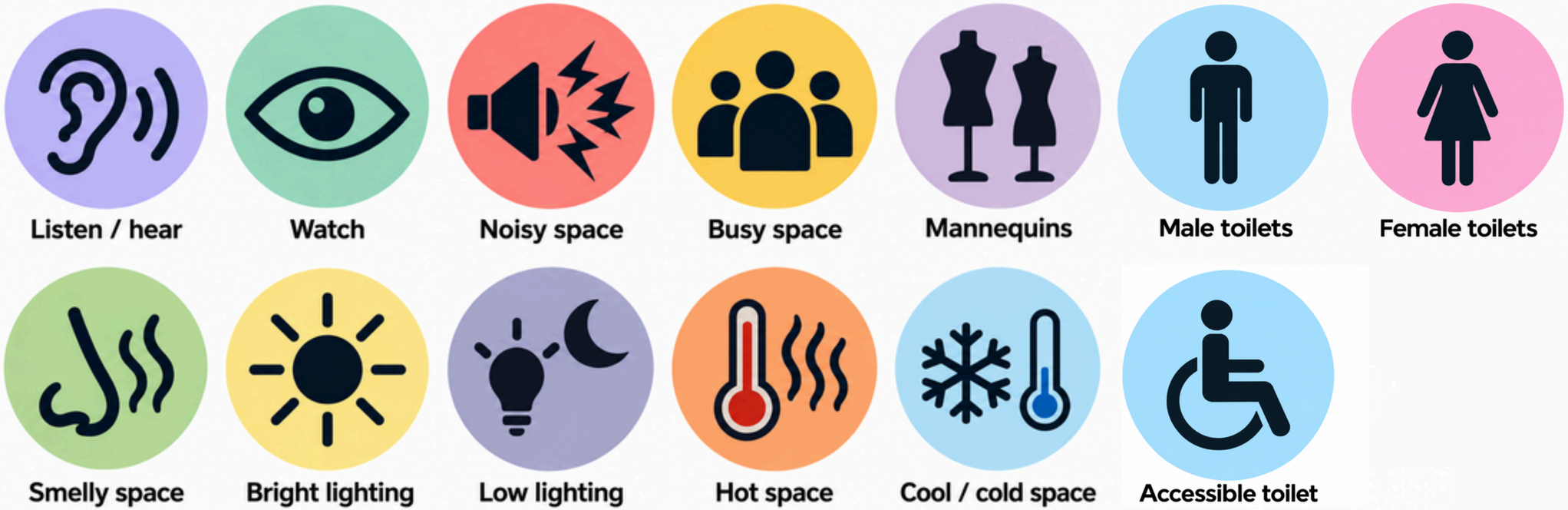
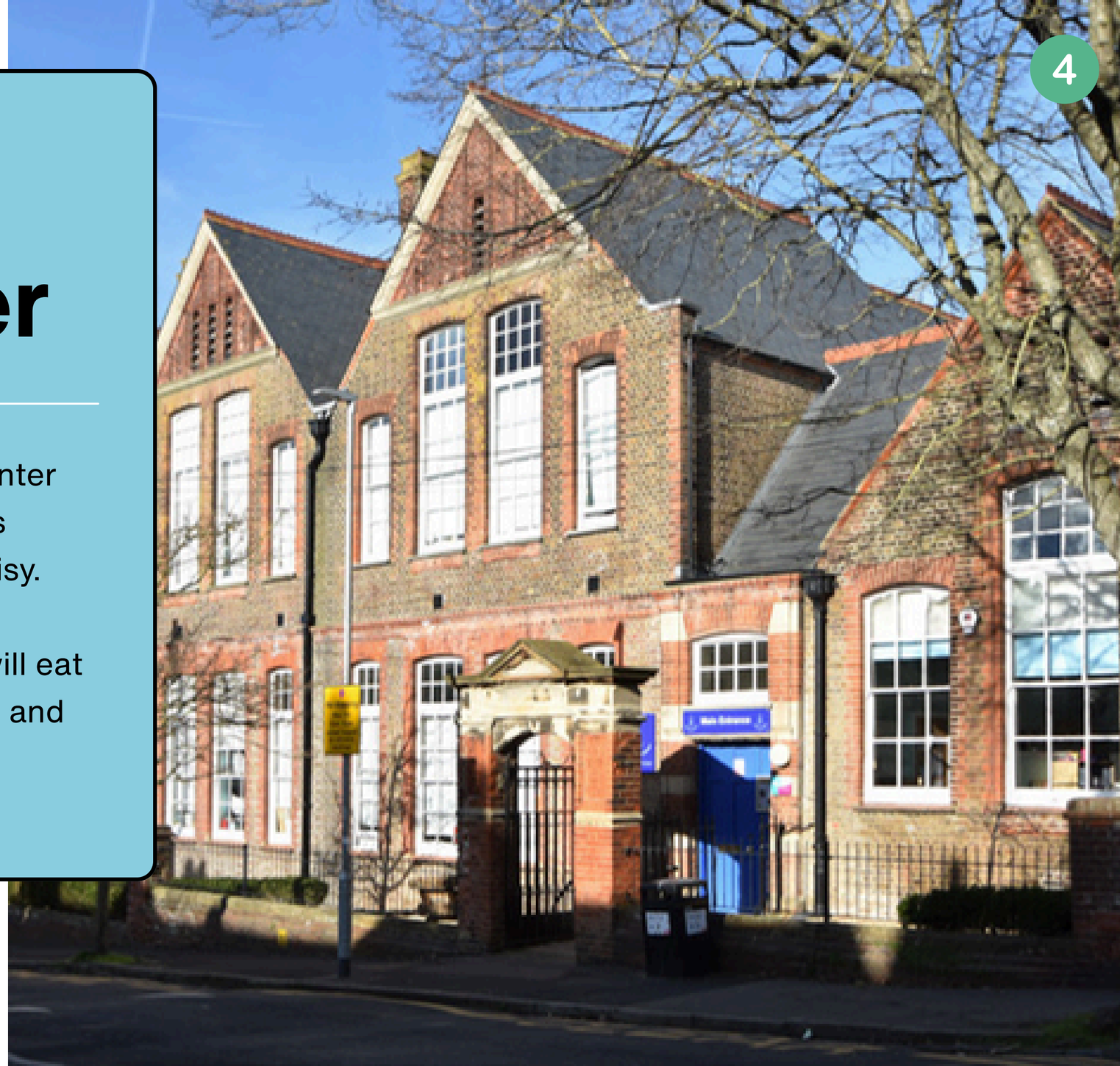
Key


Listen / hear
Watch
Noisy space
Busy space
Mannequins
Male toilets
Female toilets
Smelly space
Bright lighting
Low lighting
Hot space
Cool / cold space
Accessible toilet

Accessing the site and shelter

To access the shelter on your visit, you will enter and exit through the main entrance at Downs Junior School. This area can be busy and noisy.

If your group is staying for lunch, everyone will eat in the main dining hall. The hall can be noisy, and there may be strong smells due to food.



Entrance and dining hall

Smelly space

Bright lighting

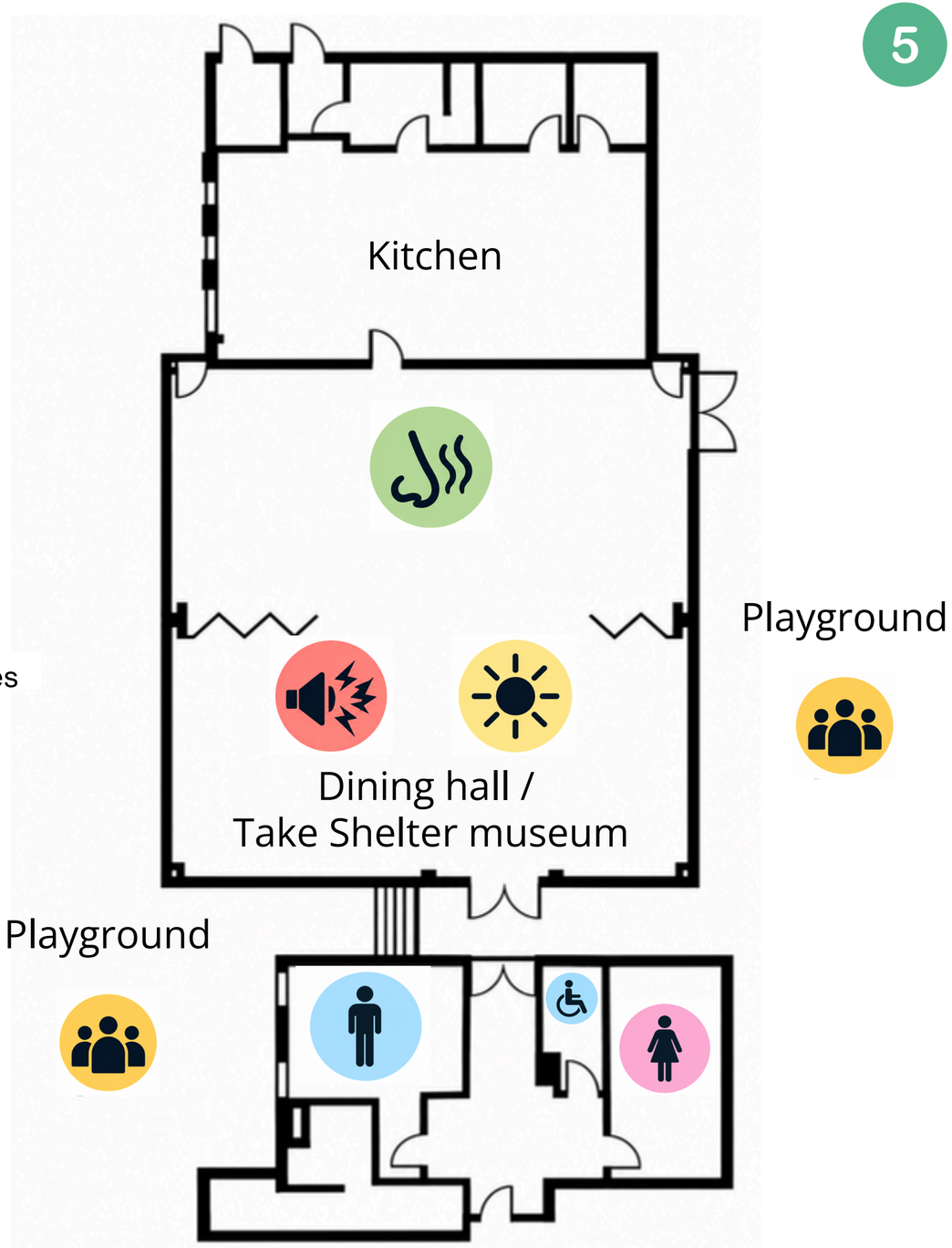
Busy space - at school breaktimes

Noisy space

Male toilets

Female toilets

Accessible toilet



The Air Raid Shelter

To enter the shelter, you will be led by the tour guide down a short flight of stairs. There are handrails at either side of the steps.

Because the shelter is underground, there will be low levels of light and a slightly damp smell throughout. The corridors are narrow so may feel crowded, even in small groups.

Please note that there is a dressed child mannequin just after the kitchen scene and then an adult mannequin just after the fake air raid experience as this can cause distress, particularly to young children.

Plan of the Air Raid Shelter

Throughout the shelter:

Smelly space

Cold space

Low lighting

At specific points:

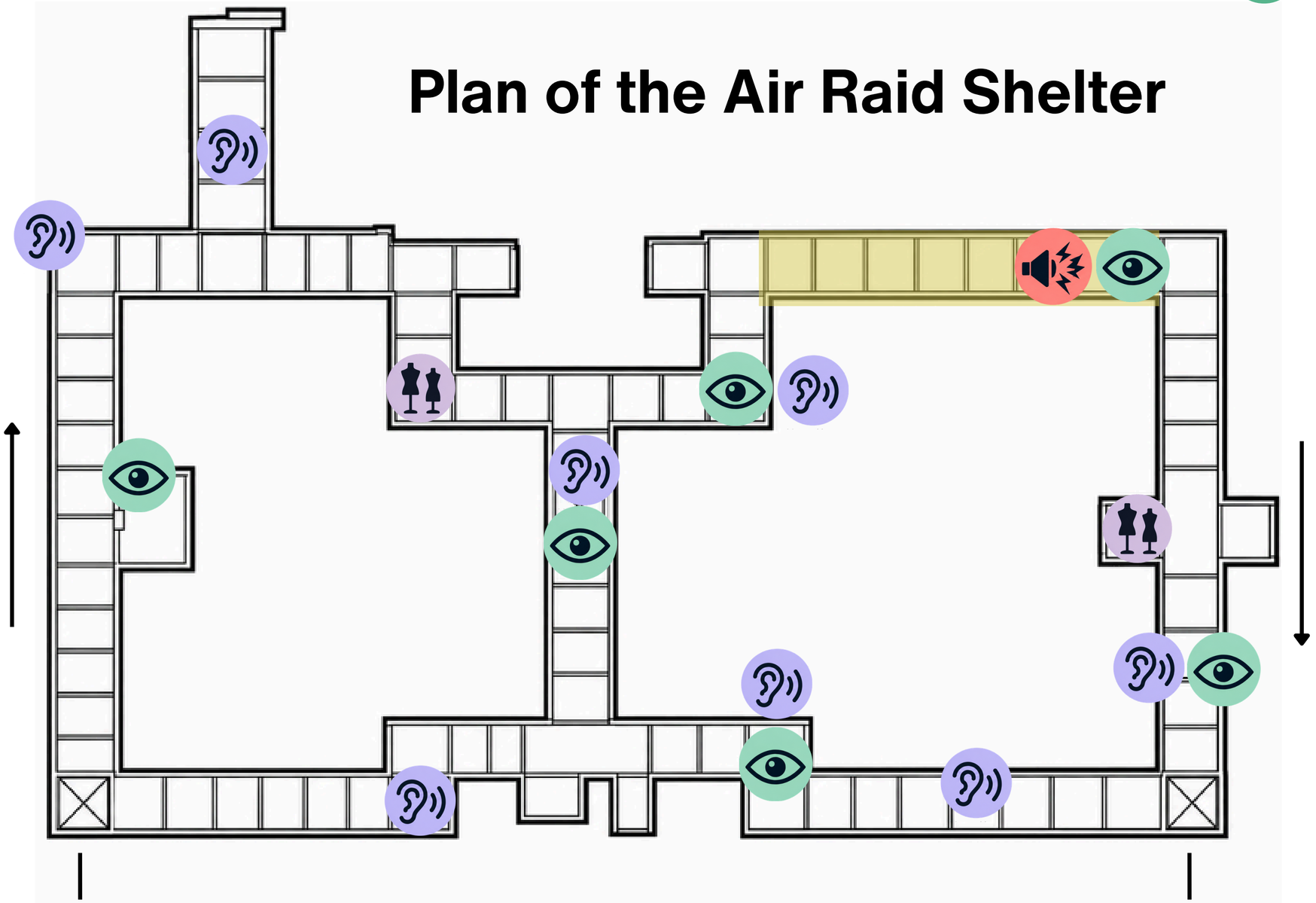
Listen / hear

Watch

Noisy space

Mannequins

Fake air raid experience (see next page)



Main entrance and exit via steps

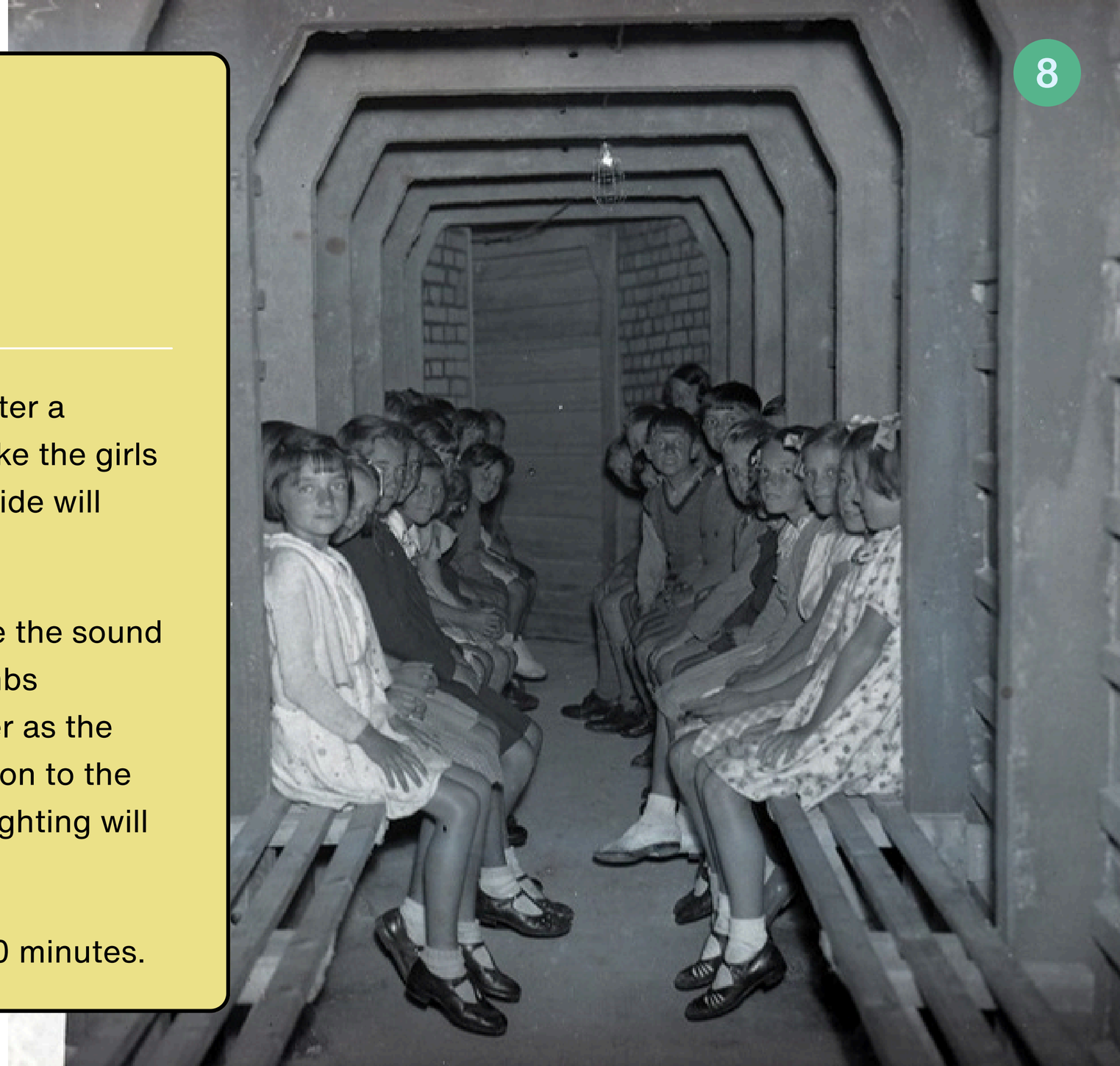
Fire exit via ladder

Fake air raid experience

Halfway through the shelter tour, you will enter a corridor and sit down on the benches (just like the girls in the photograph on the right.) Your tour guide will then start the fake air raid experience.

The corridor will be dimly lit and there will be the sound of planes flying above your head and of bombs dropping nearby. These noises will get louder as the fake raid gets ‘closer’ to the shelter. In addition to the noise, the benches will vibrate and the low lighting will flicker.

The whole experience lasts approximately 10 minutes.



Further support

For more information about Take Shelter and planning your visit please see our website: www.takeshelter.org.uk. We have section on how to **Plan your visit** and with **Access** information.

If you require any further information to help you plan and enjoy your visit to Take Shelter you can contact us in a number of ways:

Via email:
TakeShelter@downsjun.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Via our website:
https://takeshelter.org.uk/contact-us/

By phone: 01273 558422 *(Main school number)*

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