Colchester Castle is a large stone building in Colchester. There is a museum inside with objects from the history of the town. There are interactives including films and light and sound projections. Some areas of the Castle are dark.

You enter the Castle by walking along a low bridge. It may look dark as you approach the door but there are lights inside.
As you enter, to your right you will see a well.  
If you look down it is very dark, but there is a grille and safety rail.

Once you have walked through the main door there is a stone floor and a carpeted slope to some automatic doors.  
These glass doors will open as you approach.
As you enter you will see the front desk where you can buy your ticket. There may be a queue of people and this area may be busy. You can borrow ear-defenders and a copy of the floorplan here.

Museum staff will be around the museum to help you. They will be wearing a blue uniform and an ID badge. Most of the museum is carpeted inside.
In the galleries there are glass cases with museum objects. There are also some interactives. The room is double height in the centre and if you look up you can see the visitors on the first floor.

In the back left corner of the ground floor, there is an animated film which shows the history of the building. This area is quite dark. There is no sound on this film.
Behind the front desk there is a film about the Army in Colchester. This has sound and you can choose which film to watch.

This glass lift will take you to the first floor of the museum.
A sound and light display projected onto the wall every 90 minutes. Museum staff can advise when the next show is due. They last 12-15 minutes.

There are carpeted steps or a slope up to the lunch room, toilets and Prison section.
The lunchroom is an area where you can sit down for a drink or a snack. It can get quite busy around lunchtime. During term-time this room is used by school groups. It is quieter after 2pm. There are vending machines that hum.

The toilets are off the long corridor. The first cubicle is a Disabled toilet, followed by the Male and Female toilets. All these toilets have hand driers.
Halfway down the corridor there is a walkway to the left which takes you to an additional Disabled Toilet. This toilet does **not** have a hand drier.

This a lift to the first floor. It has mirrors inside and will take you to the Roman section of the first floor of the Museum.
This door leads to the Prisons. It is a dark room with information panels.

A slope leads up to another dark room with a Light and Sound Show. This is triggered on entering the room. There is audio of people talking and silhouettes of the characters projected in each cell. The floor is wooden, uneven and in some places it squeaks.
From the main area of the ground floor there are stairs to the first floor. The visitor route is up to the left but you can go either way.

The first floor has more glass cases with objects and interactive panels. There are sometimes fans around the museum to keep visitors cool.
One of the interactives is about the lives of modern and Roman soldiers. A soldier on the video will talk to you as you approach.

At the far side of the first floor there are a number of film screens showing the story of Boudicca. A smaller screen with British Sign Language (BSL) is on one of the pillars.
These doors lead to the rest of the gallery.

This is the Chapel and is sometimes set out for a wedding or school session. This is a white space and can be echoey.
In this gallery there are more interactives. A voice will be triggered when you touch one of these objects.

This is the garderobe. It has a stone floor and stone walls.
This is the chariot interactive. As you hold the reins you will see your chariot in the race. There is the sound of horses, the crowds and crashing chariots. This area may be busy.

You can go back downstairs the way you came, by the stairs leading to the Prisons, or using one of the two lifts.
On your way out you will see the entrance to the Lucas Vault, a white space with a projected film. When the film is not playing there are lights which change colour. The film has sound and is projected onto two walls. There is also a small screen showing the film with BSL.

This is the shop where you can buy souvenirs from the staff at the front desk.