

Cardiff Castle

Standard Norman/Medieval Session in the Education Centre

Location

Your workshop will take place in the Steward's Room (Room 2) of the Education Centre.

Description

These sessions will be adapted to the age and needs of the children in the class. In general, a session will include:

- Foundation Phase/Key Stage 1 – an introduction to castles and the people who lived in them. During the session, pupils will explore why castles were built, who lived in them and the sort of armour and weapons they used. Pupils will have the chance to handle and try on selected items from the handling collection including some plastic helmets at the end of the session and play with a selection of puppets.
- KS2 – A more detailed talk about the lives of people in the Age of the Princes, focussing on the armour and weapons in the handling collection and how they would have been used. All pupils will have the opportunity to handle and try on selected items.
- KS3 – An overview of life in the area in the medieval times, from the arrival of the Normans through the medieval ownership of Cardiff Castle. Changes in armour and weapons during the period will be illustrated using the handling collection in the Education Centre and pupils will be given the chance to handle and try on selected items.

The session is taken by the Education Officer who is DBS-checked.

Guided Tour of Castle

A guided tour of the House is included in the price of the visit. The tour takes pupils to some of the highly decorated rooms that date from the Victorian period. The designs reflect the architect's vision of how the interior of a medieval Castle would have been.

Duration

The session will last for 60-75 minutes. For Foundation Phase/Key Stage 1 pupils and SEN groups, sessions can be shortened to suit the needs of the group. The guided tour of the Castle will last approximately 50 minutes. Teachers with younger children may choose a shorter tour (approximately 30 mins) which omits the spiral staircase to the top of one of the towers.

Key Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes and what is covered during sessions will depend on the age, needs and range of the pupils. However, by the end of the session, pupils of all ages will have:

- ◆ Learnt the likely reason for the location of the Norman motte and bailey castle at Cardiff
- ◆ Learnt about the different types of soldier in a medieval army and the equipment they used
- ◆ Learnt how armour and weapons changed through the medieval period
- ◆ Learnt how to safely handle artefacts with care and respect
- ◆ Learnt how to employ thinking skills and problem solving to work out the advantages and disadvantages of different types of armour and weapons
- ◆ Learnt to work as a team and take it in turns as the group handles and tries on certain items from the collection

Main Links to the National Curriculum

- ◆ **Foundation Phase (Wales)**
 - Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- ◆ **Key Stage 1 (England)**
 - Events beyond living memory
- ◆ **Key Stage 2 (Wales)**
 - Daily life of people living either in the Age of the Princes (History)
- ◆ **Key Stage 2 (England)**

- A Study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066 (History)

◆ **Key Stage 3 (Wales)**

- How the coming of the Normans affected Wales and Britain between 1000 and 1500 (History)

◆ **Key Stage 3 (England)**

- The development of Church, state and society in Medieval Britain 1066-1509 (History)

What Else is Included in Your Visit

Your visit to the Castle also includes:

- Use of the Audio Guide that has been written especially for children
- Film show and access to areas of the Grounds including the Keep, the Battlements and Wartime Shelters
- A Visit to Firing Line – Museum of the Welsh Soldier (Military Museum in the Interpretation Centre). Please note: Firing Line is independently managed and any activities offered are not a part of Cardiff Castle's Education Service. Visits may not be possible on certain days, or may incur an additional charge

We usually have birds of prey on site during the week although we cannot guarantee this.