

Information for Secondary Schools

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Introductory Note

The Black Watch Castle and Museum aims to offer a **world class learning service** to schools with the purpose of encouraging learning about the role of The Black Watch within war and conflict. The Black Watch recruiting area encapsulates Angus, Dundee, Fife and Perthshire and so has particular relevance to pupils in these counties.

A visit to Castle and Museum includes:

- **activities led by a trained Museum professional**
- **interacting with the Museum collections**
- **a 2-for-1 admission voucher for all participating pupils**

We are dedicated to providing the best quality resources in order to help pupils learn from our collection. Our learning programmes are focused on the collection that is the heart of The Black Watch Castle and Museum. The wonderful benefit of involving Museums in education is the **opportunity for students to handle and study primary source material and develop investigative skills**, and this is the core of the educational programme at The Black Watch Museum.

We are very keen to develop a programme that will benefit schools as much as possible and with that in mind we would welcome any **feedback, advice or suggestions** you might have and hope to work with teachers to make sure we maximise the potential of the Museum collections in this area.

The recent redevelopment of The Black Watch Castle and Museum included the building of an extension which now houses a **purpose-built Education Room**.

Please read over this document and then fill out a booking form (downloadable from our website in Word format) and return to Rebecca Berger, Learning and Audiences Officer at the Museum.

The Black Watch Castle and Museum

The Black Watch Castle and Museum reopened in June 2013 after a £3.5 million redevelopment. With its brand new, accessible and interactive displays, along with new educational facilities including a bespoke classroom, the Castle and Museum is a great place to bring your school group.

The Collection and Displays

The Museum tells the story of The Black Watch from its origins in 1725 up to the amalgamation of the Scottish regiments in 2006, continuing on to the new Black Watch battalion of The Royal Regiment of Scotland.

There are displays relating to the following periods and conflicts:

- Early Years (1725-1745)
 - War of Austrian Succession (1745)
- French Wars (1745-1815)
 - North America (1756-63 and 1776-83)
 - India (1799)
 - Egypt (1801)
 - Peninsular War (1807-1814)
 - Quatre Bras and Waterloo (1815)
- Empire (1815-1914)
 - Crimean War (1854-56)
 - Indian Mutiny (1857-58)
 - Ashanti (1874)
 - Egypt and Sudan (1882-)
 - Boer War (1899-1902)
- **First World War (1914-1918)**
- Second World War (1939-1945)
- Post War (1945-2006)
- 3SCOTS (2006-present)
 - Afghanistan (2009-)

There are further thematic displays relating to:

- A Day in the Life of a Soldier
- The Black Watch and the Royal Family
- Sons of the Black Watch
- Orders, Medals and Decorations
- Remembrance

There is also a temporary exhibition space in which there will be three new exhibitions each year.

The Black Watch Castle & Museum

Balhousie Castle
Hay Street
Perth PH1 5HR

T: 01738 638152

E: learning@theblackwatch.co.uk

W: www.theblackwatch.co.uk

Visit Structure

Led session: 10:00am-12:00pm

10:00	Arrival, Welcome, Intro
10:15	Activity 1
11:05	Activity 2
12:00	Finish
12:00-3:00	Free use of Museum, Education Room

Activity 1 Options:

Explore the First World War Gallery by Theme

Curriculum Links: SOC 3-01a, SOC 4-06b

Pupils will complete this activity in groups of 2-4. Each group will be assigned a theme to explore in the First World War gallery. They will then look around the gallery and choose 3-5 objects that represent their theme and explain why they've chosen them. Themes include:

- Food and drink
- Contact with home
- Pastimes in war
- Religion
- Souvenirs
- Memorial

Alternatively, pupils could explore one theme across multiple time periods and compare and contrast what they find.

Worksheet in the First World War Gallery

Curriculum Links: SOC 3-01a, SOC 4-06b

Pupils will be provided with an age-appropriate worksheet to help them explore the First World War displays in depth.

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Activity 2 Options:

Uniforms and Weapons

Curriculum Links: SOC 3-01a, SOC 4-05a, SOC 4-06b

Pupils will look at the Black Watch uniform of the First World War in some detail. They will get the opportunity to handle weapons and equipment of the period in order to feel the weight and gain a more in-depth understanding of the Highland soldier's experience in the Great War.

First World War: Learning from Primary Sources

Curriculum Links: LIT 3-04a, LIT 3-14a/4-14a, ENG 3-17a/4-17a, ENG 3-18a/4-18a, SOC 4-15a

After a brief discussion about primary sources, pupils will be provided with various documents from the First World War which will be used to explore the theme of life in the trenches for men on the Western Front.

Outreach Service

We strongly recommend that you visit the Museum with your class. If, however, you are unable to bring your class to the Museum for a visit, we can deliver a limited number of outreach visits. The Activity 2 Options are available for outreach.

To arrange a visit to your school, please contact our Learning and Audiences Officer, Shonagh Lowerson-Head (learning@theblackwatch.co.uk).

There is a £50 suggested donation for outreach visits up to 3 hours long within a 10 mile radius from the Museum. A further donation of £0.40 per mile is suggested to cover travel expenses outwith a 10 mile radius.

Self-Guided Visits

If you would prefer to take your class around the Museum on your own, materials can be provided to help you on your visit. We can provide an age-appropriate worksheet for the First World War gallery with accompanying notes. Further notes can be provided for the rest of the Museum if desired.

If you would like to come along for a self-guided visit, we ask that you still arrange a time for your visit with our Learning and Audiences Officer so that we can avoid clashes with other groups. This will also ensure that we have worksheets available for your class when they arrive.

The normal admission fee for children will apply (£3.50 per person). Accompanying adults will not be charged.



Visiting Information

We are open:

Monday to Saturday 9.30am–5pm | Sunday 10am–4pm
(Some exclusions apply – please contact the Museum for details)

Charges (Includes a 2-for-1 voucher for all pupils):

Visits to the Museum:

£3.50 per pupil

Outreach in the classroom:

Suggested donation £50 for up to 3 hours visit, within a 10 mile radius; add £0.40 per mile outside 10 miles

Group Size:

The Museum can accommodate groups of school pupils up to 20 at a time. Slightly larger groups might be accommodated pending Activity Leader availability; please enquire.

Parking:

There is a car park on site with space for a coach; booking is essential for use of this spot.

Upon arrival:

Please report to the front desk. Coats and bags can be left in the Education Room at the owner's risk. The Room will be locked if left unoccupied for any period of time.

Toilets:

Toilets are situated at the far end of the shop on the ground floor. Staff with a visiting group are asked to take responsibility for pupils leaving the group to visit the toilet.

Lunch/snacks:

A room can be provided in the Museum for pupils to eat a packed lunch or snack. We also have a café on site that is open during Museum hours. Please let us know in advance.

Accessibility:

The Museum is situated on two floors. There is a lift that provides access to all floors. Please make the Museum aware of any access issues prior to your visit and we will do all we can to help.

Museum Shop:

There are a range of items for sale in the Museum shop. If you would like to factor in time to allow your pupils to purchase something in the shop, please let us know at the time of booking.

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THE GOOD GALLERY GUIDE

for visiting groups

It is the responsibility of The Black Watch Castle & Museum to ensure a safe environment for your visit. However, children on group visits remain the responsibility of accompanying teachers and group leaders.

We want you to enjoy your visit but ask that your group respects the Museum environment, which they will be sharing with other members of the public.

In the Museum:

Teachers must supervise pupils at all times. Museum staff are here to oversee a fun, easy and educational visit, but are not responsible for pupil behaviour.

During your visit children are advised:

- not to run
- not to leave the building without prior permission from a teacher/group leader
- not to touch exhibits
- to beware of areas of reduced lighting
- to beware of uneven flooring, steps and stairs
- to beware of doors closing on fingers
- not to enter any unauthorised areas - these are clearly marked
- not to go under or beyond any barriers