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A visit to Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery can not only enhance and extend the classroom learning experience but also provide an excellent platform for many other types of community groups to enjoy our rich and varied collections. Museum and Art Gallery visits can be used to enrich learning in all areas of the National Curriculum, including History, Citizenship and Art and Design. It can also be used to assist with teaching of non-statutory subjects such as PHSE.

Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery offer a team of educators to assist with your visit, and to provide a stimulus for your group to engage with the exhibition.

Sessions can be tailored to suit the needs and requirements of your group.

Most sessions are free of charge to those groups and schools within our Plymouth City Council catchment area.

### Artist-led workshops

We can provide hands-on workshops led by practicing artists that can be focussed on various aspects of the curriculum. We are able to provide sessions that use the materials listed on page 5, sketching and drawing sessions being the most common. These sessions are designed to stimulate and encourage those taking part, and can be cross-curricular in approach.

Artist-led sessions are [free of charge](#).

### Investigative visits

Investigative visits are led by one of our Learning Team. Groups may wish to visit a particular exhibition from our regularly changing exhibition programme or choose to focus on some of the works which are on permanent display. Please contact us for further information.

These sessions generally last for one hour, and are focused on selected aspects of the exhibition, with an educational basis.

Investigative visits are [free of charge](#).

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### Self-guided visits

We welcome independent visits by all organisations. We ask that all independent visits are booked in advance, so we can be sure that the galleries are available for your use. We recommend that teachers and group leaders make a visit to Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery in advance, for risk assessment and planning purposes.

Self-guided visits are [free of charge](#).

### External learning

The benefits of external learning have been recently published by the DfES in the Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto. A well planned, safely managed and personalised visit can:

- Improve academic achievement
- Provide a bridge to higher order learning
- Make learning more engaging and relevant to young people
- Nurture creativity
- Stimulate, inspire and improve motivation
- Improve young people's attitudes to learning

More information on this manifesto can be obtained from [www.lotc.org.uk](http://www.lotc.org.uk)

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## Planning your visit

Advance booking is essential for all groups, for both taught and self-directed sessions. We recommend that you visit Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery prior to your group visit to familiarise yourself with the building, its layout and content, and to assist with your risk assessments and planning. A map of our location can be found at the back of these notes.

Self-guided visits are [free of charge](#).

## Booking your visit

Please contact the Learning Team to discuss your needs and to book a visit. Please have ready:

- A preferred date for your visit and a range of possible alternatives
- The number of pupils and accompanying adults, and any special needs or access requirements

If you want to visit with a **school** group, please phone:

[Charlotte Gunn](#) – Education Officer (Arts) – 01752 304665

[Adam Milford](#) – Education Assistant (Site) – 01752 304771

If you want to visit with a **community** group, please phone:

[Donna Hanns](#) – Outreach and Access Officer – 01752 304666

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### Access

Should your group require a wheelchair or level access, we can provide access to the ground floor from the rear of our main building on Tavistock Place. A lift providing access to our upper floor galleries is available from this entrance on request. A limited number of wheelchairs are also available on request should your group require them. We would be grateful if you could telephone us in advance on 01752 304774 to let us know if you require these services, or let us know when you book your group in for a visit.

A hearing loop facility is available during our Tuesday Talk programme. Please ask one of our Visitor Services Assistants if you require this facility.

### Toilets and other facilities

Toilets and baby-changing facilities are available on the ground floor.

We can provide clothes rail facilities if arranged in advance, on the understanding that all items are left at the owners own risk.

### Food and drink

The consumption of food and drink is not permitted within the galleries.

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While visiting Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery, please remember that you are responsible for the care, behaviour and discipline of your group. We insist that adults accompany all young people of school age at all times during their visit.

### Use of art materials

The dry art materials that **can** be used by self-directed groups at our sites are:

- Graphite pencils
- Coloured pencils
- Drawing pens
- Compacted or hard charcoal pencils
- Enclosed or barrelled pencil sharpeners

Materials that we regret **cannot** be used by self-directed groups are:

- Paints
- Charcoal
- Fixative spray
- Chalk pastels
- Bottles of ink
- Glue
- Erasers
- Craft knives
- Scissors

We ask that you kindly adhere to these guidelines, as they are put in place to protect our collections for the future.

**Please note that the use of cameras is not permitted in the galleries.**