

Primary Literacy

Listen to our founding legends recounted by our fully trained costumed guides and let your students decide whether they think the stories are fact or fiction.

Hear the tales of King Arthur recounted by our Storyteller and see how the stories fit in with the local landscape.

Come and hear about St. Dunstan, a 'local boy' who is said to have battled the devil as a monk here, and was also a highly important advisor to royalty. Learn about his relevance that still remains today.

Pilgrims still travel here to see the Holy Thorn tree, which can be seen in flower each spring and winter. Listen to the tale of how it is said it came to be here.

Early Years

Our costumed guides are able to tell the stories of the Abbey so that they are accessible to younger children.

- Try one of our trails. Accept the quest to find the Holy Grail or take Brother Bear's Grounds and Garden Trail.
- Use the museum spotter quiz to help your class look closely at the artefacts.
- Let our Storyteller inspire their imagination.
- Create a stunning wax resist image using our collection of replica memorial plaques.

GCSE History

Let us help prepare your class for their GCSE exam.

We are able to create tailor made packages to enhance the history exam curriculum.

We will help your students gain understanding of Glastonbury Abbey in a wider historical context, and the Abbey's place in local and national history.

This full immersion day includes 'interviews' with our costumed guides to help with understanding why people would have different views on what is happening around them and also the opportunity to understand and assess the sources of interpretation of the site.

* Come Find Me in old English Saxon thanks to Professor Ad Putter, University of Bristol
** Come and look for (seek) me in Brythonic thanks to Professor Helen Fulton, University of Bristol

Primary Saxon Day

The 'Meet the Saxon' session includes:

A day in the life of a Saxon – looking at personal and household items, food, clothing and how they lived.

Work and daily activity - how you can tell if someone is rich or poor.

Shopping at the market – what you are able to buy cost of items, value of money.

Perhaps a thief is caught stealing at the market – leads into talking about law and punishment.

Return home in the evening – how did they spend their

leisure time. What games did they play? Compare evening activities today with those in Saxon times.

Meet King Arthur. Learn what life was like in his time and what his connection is to Glastonbury Abbey. Why did people believe in King Arthur? Indeed many people believe in him today! Why did King Edward I and his wife, Queen Eleanor think it was important for them to come and place his bones in a grand tomb?



Medicine Through Time

We have developed workshops to give a practical understanding of the role of an Abbey or religious institution in medieval health and hygiene. This includes 'Disease and Infection' and 'Public Health in the pre-industrial world'.

The practical hands-on activities will assist in understanding some of the problems faced by people of the time and the role religious belief played in medicine.

Exploring the Past



New
this year
Saxon
Day

or
King
Arthur

Cumap and findap me!*

Dewch a chwiliwch
amdanaf.**

The School Curriculum at Glastonbury Abbey

www.glastonburyabbey.com

GLASTONBURY
ABBNEY

Bring History to Life!

Discover our links to key periods in local and national history.

A day here will contain:

- An interactive session in the newly-refurbished Abbot's Kitchen, tailored to the historical period you are studying and the age/ability of your class.
- Short tours showing different aspects of the site with a costumed guide who is trained and experienced in working with children.
- Trails and worksheets to enable your class to explore at their own pace.
- An Outdoor Classroom as your base for the day.
- Practical hands-on activities to help children to engage with the life and times of the people they are studying.

Did you know...

3 Kings of England were buried here

Activities to enhance our Curriculum

For KS1 and KS2:

Choose two activities to be included in your day from our menu. All activities are designed to be inclusive and each session lasts for 30 minutes each, accommodating a maximum of 20 children in each session.

- Try 'Taking the Vow', with children dressed in monks' robes learning a little about what the life of a novice entailed, then listen to the sound of silence as they process into the grounds, enabling you to have a group photo opportunity.
- Look at Anglo Saxon Chronicles. Learn how the monks made books with 'Quills & Spills' as children try to write with a quill and illuminate their work.
- Make a pilgrim badge as part of your Pilgrimage focus day. The day will also help children understand the differences in medieval beliefs and values, helping them to empathise with people from that time.
- Learn about Medieval Health & Hygiene whilst making a salve for toothache and learning about some of the more 'revolting' aspects of medieval life.



Please see our website for the full table of activities suited to your Key Stage, www.glastonburyabbey.com

Most school groups arrive at the Abbey around 10.00 and have to be back on the coach for 14.00

We believe that those four hours should be packed with educational experiences for your class

We offer a comprehensive planning service for your day with us, based on the experience of over 10,000 school children visiting the Abbey last year

How to book

If you are interested in bringing your class for a day at the Abbey, please contact Learning Manager Julie Hayes who will be pleased to discuss how best to suit your needs.

We can cater for groups of all sizes from 10 to 200 and will consult with you to create a timetable for your day with us. The site is reasonably accessible and a risk assessment can be obtained on request.

We offer a free orientation visit for teachers thinking of bringing their students here, which can also include a meeting with Julie Hayes in order that we are able to ensure that your day fulfils your requirements.

Facilities

The Abbey ruins are set in 36 acres of parkland. We have covered space available for schoolchildren which is close to the washroom facilities. An extensive apple orchard, two ponds and a Wildlife Walkway are all available for you to access.

There is drop-off parking in the car park next to the abbey and coach bays in Northload Street.

Prices are available on our website

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Contact

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