

Learning Programme

Take a closer look!

Academic Year 2025/26



Workshops

English

- KS1** A Fairytale Gallery
- EFYS KS1** Museum Explorer
- KS2** Local Myths & Legends: Bradford Boar
- KS2** The Bradford Ghost

Science

- KS1** Living things & their habitats: Who's coming to dinner
- KS1** Dinosaur Detective
- KS1** Explorers from the Past
- EFYS** Dinosaurs Roar!
- KS 1/2** Biodiversity & Me - David Attenborough & the Natural World
- KS 1/2** The Art & Science of Noticing
- KS2** Evolution
- KS2** Rocks & Fossils
- KS2** Stone Age to Iron Age

History

- KS1** Great Fire of London
- KS1** 1666 street
- KS1** Let's Explore Transport
- KS1** Grandma's Washdays
- KS1** Toy Detective
- KS2** World War II & Bradford
- KS2** Ancient Egyptian Civilization
- KS2** A Victorian Classroom
- KS2** Art of Early Islamic Civilisation
- KS2** India & Pakistan: Partition & Art
- KS2** Weaving in the Mill
- KS2** Local Myths & Legends
- KS2** Did Bradford ever belong to the Romans?

Maths / History

- KS2** Henry VIII visits Bolling Hall

Art

- KS1** Hello Hockney
- KS1** Lowry Landscapes
- EFYS KS1** Cave Baby
- KS 1/2** The Art & Science of Noticing
- KS2** Hockney Techniques
- KS2** Exploring the Turner Prize
- KS2** India & Pakistan: Partition & Art

Careers

- KS1** We Work at the Museum
- KS2** Museum Pupil Takeover

Key					
All Sites	Bolling Hall Museum	Bradford Industrial Museum	Cliffe Castle Museum	Cartwright Hall Art Gallery	

Learning Offer

Want your students to learn in engaging, creative ways outside the classroom?

Museums and galleries are inspiring, unique learning spaces that encourage alternative communication between teachers and their students.

Our four sites have diverse collections that enhance classroom learning across a variety of subjects, giving pupils enriching experiences, and adding value way beyond the visit.

Bradford Museums & Galleries Learning Offer provides a fantastic range of hands-on, cross-curricular learning opportunities for many popular school topics, with National Curriculum objectives embedded throughout.

With Bradford history at the heart of all that we do, our team encourage children to make links between topical learning and their locality, to provide meaningful context to a memorable experience.



Schools workshops

In 2025/26 Cartwright Hall will host the Turner prize. Young people can engage with this fantastic exhibition either through the BD'25 Learning programme till December 2025 (Turner Prize 2025: school and education programme | Bradford 2025) or in January and February 2026, with our Learning Team.

We've developed new resources at Cliffe Castle - Explorers from the Past, and, Mary Anning: How to find a Fossil (KS1); and, Where are the Romans (KS2), and at Bolling Hall - 1666 Street (KS1) - that complements our Great Fire of London workshop. At Cartwright Hall, after the Easter break, we'll be offering India and Pakistan: Partition and Art (KS2). Further details can be found on our website: bradfordmuseums.org/learning-on-site

We can design bespoke workshops to meet specific curricula needs. And while we love having your learners visit us, we appreciate that sometimes you need us to visit your learning space to deliver sessions. Ask us how this all works!



Curriculum Planning

Meet with a member of our Learning Team to design a programme of on-site or classroom workshops to support your long-term curriculum planning. Our Learning Officers are experienced in tailoring our workshops to meet your children's needs, and can design bespoke programmes to align with your curriculum. Our topic boxes and video resources are a way to deepen your students' understanding of a specific topic.

To book a meeting contact: learning@bradford.gov.uk or call Andrew on 07977 814334 or 01274 435858.

Pricing

We are conscious that budgets are tight and do our utmost to keep costs to an affordable and sustainable level. Prices vary depending on the length and type of the workshop. Please contact us directly for our current prices and about any funding that may be available to support a visit to one of our sites.

Contact us at learning@bradford.gov.uk or call 01274 435858.

Workshop Packages

Maximise your visit with a full day of learning!

We've developed a range of curriculum centred, topic linked activities to supplement the self-led portion of a school's visit - handling boxes, tasks, quizzes and exploration trails - to ensure the very best value for money (and learning time!)

3 Form Entry Schools

You may prefer to bring the whole cohort for a single day visit, rather than on 3 separate days. Schools can bring 3 classes and still receive the benefit of an immersive, gallery-based workshop, a designated lunch space, topic tailored supporting activities AND time to explore the fantastic galleries and grounds.

borrowed for half-a-term and include suggested activities that cover the skills and knowledge from the KS2 curriculum, ideas for cross-curricular links too.

Topic Boxes on: World War II, Anglo-Saxons & Vikings, The Romans, Stone Age, The Industrial Revolution, Bradford History, Polar Explorers and Grace Darling.

Learning Videos

A series of short videos based on our most popular workshops that explore and give information on museum/gallery objects, with a demonstration of a linked, hands-on creative activity.

Videos on: David Hockney @; The Art and Science of Noticing: Making Maps, and, Objects; Great Fire of London; Ancient Egyptians; Early Islamic Civilisation; Victorian Classroom; Industrial Revolution; and, Toys.

Digital Photo Boxes

Photo packs from our Bradford District Photo Archive, to support with local history topics in school, such as WWI and WW2.

Contact Us

To access our resources, or discuss how we can create bespoke workshops for your learners, please contact learning@bradford.gov.uk or visit our website: bradfordmuseums.org/learning for more details.

In-class & Digital Resources

Topic Boxes

Packed with objects to let your pupils get hands-on with their topic and discover more of the history of Bradford district. The boxes can be

Bolling Hall Museum



A fascinating journey through the turbulent lives and times of the Bradford families who lived in the Hall for more than 500 years. Just a mile from Bradford city centre, sitting in beautiful, quiet, leafy grounds.

Cliffe Castle Museum



Originally built in the 1880s as the home of a textiles entrepreneur, Cliffe Castle in Keighley is now a world of wonders, from Victorian furniture to archaeology and wildlife, surrounded by beautiful gardens.

Bradford Industrial Museum



A unique museum, located at the historic Moorside Mills in Eccleshill. It now contains permanent displays of textile machinery, steam power, engineering innovations and motor vehicles.

Cartwright Hall Art Gallery



Bradford's civic gallery featuring incredible paintings, drawings and sculpture from the district's world-class art collections, located only a mile from Bradford City Centre in stunning Lister Park.



Everyone is welcome at Bradford Museums & Galleries.

Bradford Industrial Museum
Cartwright Hall Art Gallery
Cliffe Castle Museum & Park
Tuesday–Friday, 10am–4pm
Saturday–Sunday, 11am–4pm

Bolling Hall
Wednesday–Friday, 10am–4pm
Saturday–Sunday, 11am–4pm



All our sites are free to enter, and we encourage parents, guardians, and care givers to bring their young people to visit on weekends, and during school holidays. Our family learning programme hosts a range of activities including events such as Sustainable Fashion, Easter Eggstravaganza, Vicious Victorians, and much more.

You can find more information about all of our events and exhibitions, on our website. This is also the place to find out about access, travel to our sites, and site facilities.

For the latest news and announcements sign up to our newsletter, check our website and follow us on social media.



All our sites offer free family activities throughout the school holidays – check our website for the latest information and booking details. bradfordmuseums.org

EYFS

Cave Baby

Pupils immerse themselves in Cave Baby's world through storytelling, drama, movement and painting. Children explore prehistoric artefacts, stone age animals and Julia Donaldson's book, Cave Baby, joining him on his adventures!



Dinosaurs Roar!

Learners explore the world of dinosaurs using artefacts, fossils, and the book, Dinosaur Roar! Children handle real dinosaur teeth, poo, eggshell and skeletons to understand what dinosaurs looked like and how to describe their features and differences.



Museum Explorer

Children become explorers to see and discover machines, cars and even trains using drawing, movement, sticking and printing! An ideal first museum visit for Reception or year 1.



Under Development for EYFS:

We'll be developing more story based workshops for Reception exploring traditional and well-loved tales - get in touch if you'd like to find out more!

Careers

We Work at the Museum

A fun, immersive workshop which allows pupils to take on the role of a museum/ gallery employee and undertake different tasks such as sorting post, stocking the tills, repairing objects, designing displays and organising collections.



KS1

English Literacy

A Fairytale Gallery

Based on traditional fairytales and using artwork from our changing exhibitions, this workshop presents opportunities for speaking, listening, mark-making, and working collaboratively. It provides a great introduction to looking at artwork.



Museum Explorer

Children become explorers to see and discover machines, cars and even trains using drawing, movement, sticking and printing! An ideal first museum visit for Reception or year 1.



Dinosaur Detective

Pupils go on a dinosaur adventure! Exploring dinosaur features by looking at and handling real dinosaur fossils, pupils will use special notebooks to record their ideas on an exploration throughout the museum.



Biodiversity and Me - David Attenborough and the Natural World

Pupils look at habitats and explore how human actions can cause damage to these habitats and what we can do to protect them, inspired by the work of David Attenborough and using Cliffe Castle's natural history collections.



Explorers from the Past

Become an intrepid explorer on a journey around the museum discovering objects and treasures from the past and across the globe. Pupils follow a map to sail oceans, camp out and find and handle amazing artefacts! An ideal first visit to a museum where pupils move round different areas of the museum recording findings in special explorer notebooks to take back to school.



Mary Anning: How to find a fossil

Find out about Bradford's pholiderpeton fossil and meet the famous fossil hunter, Mary Anning! Pupils get hands-on digging for fossils, creating fossil casts, and their own special fossil cabinet. This workshop compliments the Dinosaur Detective workshop and can be booked on the same day to create a whole day immersive experience.



History

Great Fire of London

Pupils find out more about life at the time of the Great Fire of London. They use Bolling Hall's historic rooms to explore what life and houses were like in 1666 and work as a group to create their own Great Fire artwork.



Let's Explore Transport

Pupils go on a transport journey throughout the museum using maps, role play and our amazing transport collection. Children develop noticing and drawing skills whilst recording different modes of transport including a full size train and a range of vehicles made in Bradford by the Jowett family, making a collaborative map to take back to school.



1666 Street

Pupils meet and assist Samuel Pepys's housekeeper to experience street life 1666 style! Whether (pretend) pie making, visiting the market or experiencing some of the games and entertainment of the period pupils will enjoy this interactive and lively workshop. This workshop compliments our Great Fire of London workshop and can be booked on the same day to create a full day's immersive experience!



Toy Detective

Handling toys from the past 100 years pupils explore the working mechanisms and everyday materials of toys. This popular hands-on workshop encourages pupils to work together to describe, sort, and group over sixty toys using subject specific vocabulary relating to historical terms, materials, mechanics, and the language of comparison.



Grandma's Washdays

It's washday! Pupils use washboards, posers, and the mangle. They investigate objects from the past and use enquiry skills to work out what they were used for. Pupils discover how life and technology is different now to then.



Art

Hello Hockney

Introduces Bradford artist David Hockney with pupils investigating the colours and methods used by Hockney to create his art. Pupils create a whole-class artwork to take back to school.



Lowry Landscapes

Pupils use L.S. Lowry's original painting 'An Industrial Landscape' (1952) to explore how pictures can tell us about what life was like in the past. Looking at shape and colour and relating Lowry's landscape to their own locality, pupils create their own landscape piece.



Art workshops available from 13 April 2026 after Turner Prize concludes.

KS2

English Literacy

Local Myths & Legends: Bradford Boar

Pupils explore the Bradford Boar legend through story-telling and guided activities. Inspired by the setting of the Hall, pupils dress up as some of the characters and create their re-telling of the story.



Local Myths & Legends: The Bradford Ghost

Pupils find out more about the Civil War and the legend of the Bradford Ghost. They create a piece of flash-fiction, based on the story-telling they have heard.



Science

Biodiversity and Me - David Attenborough and the Natural World

Pupils look at habitats and explore how human actions can cause damage to these habitats and what we can do to protect them, inspired by the work of David Attenborough and using Cliffe Castle's natural history collections.



Evolution (Upper KS2)

What do fossils tell us about life millions of years ago? Using fossil specimens and sources to formulate their own theories, pupils look at fossil sequences to identify changes over time. They use a variety of scientific evidence to gain subject specific vocabulary and questioning skills.



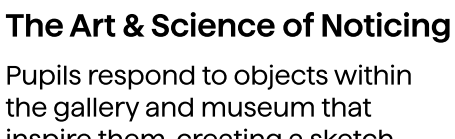
Rocks & Fossils

As budding rock star geologists, pupils closely examine and identify a wide selection of rocks, including sorting, testing and grouping, before using their new knowledge to assist a builder, and fossil finder Mary Anning!



Stone Age to Iron Age

In a workshop bursting with gallery exploration and active learning, young archaeologists will step into Prehistoric Bradford with opportunities to practise a range of skills as they investigate the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages. Children get hands-on to deepen their knowledge through creating clothing, recovering, identifying and sorting objects from an archaeological dig; and making archaeological predictions and observations.



The Art & Science of Noticing

Pupils respond to objects within the gallery and museum that inspire them, creating a sketch pad of ideas, details and words. They then create a shared piece of art – a poem, an artwork, a living sculpture. An excellent way to stimulate interest in topics, explore enquiry led learning and give you material to use as starting points back in school.



Science

Living Things and their Habitats: Who's Coming to Dinner?

In this hands-on and fun workshop designed for Year 2, pupils help prepare for an animal dinner party. This workshop uses a wide range of natural history specimens to help pupils explore and closely examine some of the plants and animals found in the local environment. The workshop compliments the 'Biodiversity and Me' workshop linking to habitats and human actions and can be booked on the same day to create a whole day immersive on topic experience!



Dinosaur Detective

Pupils go on a dinosaur adventure! Exploring dinosaur features by looking at and handling real dinosaur fossils, pupils will use special notebooks to record their ideas on an exploration throughout the museum.



Ancient Egyptian Civilization

This workshop guides pupils down the Nile to uncover the secrets of the Ancient Egyptian Civilisation. With cross curricular opportunities to apply Historical and Geographical skills, children undertake map exploration, and discover and handle a range of objects from this fascinating time period. Finally, the class assist Anubis, God of Mummification, and Amitt, the Devourer, in a mummification process to ensure our mummy has a safe transition to the Afterlife!



World War II and Bradford

Using objects, photographs and writing, pupils gain an understanding of the impact of WW2 on Bradford and its people. How did Bradford contribute to the war effort? Did children go to school? What did Bradford's Mills make? Did Bradford get bombed like London and Manchester?



Art of Early Islamic Civilisation

Using artwork and artefacts pupils explore the historic origins of Early Islamic civilisation, its influences and contribution to world culture. Through activities including traditional calligraphy, pupils gain insight into this culturally significant civilisation. Available from 13 April 2026 onwards.



Maths & History

Henry VIII visits Bolling Hall

Pupils have an immersive experience participating in various household tasks in preparation for a visit by Henry VIII. They begin to better understand life during the Tudor period and have KS2 mathematical concepts reinforced.



Careers

Pupil Takeover (KS2)

Let your pupils take over the museum! Support the development of career-based skills as pupils work with museum staff to carry out behind the scenes tasks such as answering enquiries, designing family activities, monitoring pests, and looking after objects. A great session for developing confidence, teamwork and finding out how museums work. Suitable for all Key stage 2 and ideal for Year 6 and transition experiences.



Art

Hockney Technique

Through looking at a range of Hockney artworks, pupils explore the different techniques and mediums Hockney works with. Pupils create their own iPad drawings and create their own Hockney-inspired prints to take away.



Lowry Landscapes

Pupils use L.S. Lowry's original painting 'An Industrial Landscape' (1952) to explore how pictures can tell us about what life was like in the past. Looking at shape and colour and relating Lowry's landscape to their own locality, pupils create their own landscape piece.



India and Pakistan: Partition and Art

This new workshop will use artwork from the collections to explore this thought provoking event during the creation of Pakistan. If your school covers this topic and you would like to be involved in developing this workshop please get in touch.



Art workshops available from 13 April 2026 after Turner Prize concludes.

