

Arts Award

We are now a registered Arts Award Centre and equipped to help pupils from 5 years upwards to achieve the Discover, Explore, Bronze and Silver awards. These awards are designed to introduce pupils to the very wide range of activities which are termed 'Arts', and to encourage them to find and discover new interests, to work individually and in groups, to extend and improve their skills, and to increase their confidence and sense of achievement.

There is no necessity for pupils to travel to the museum to undertake this award; the Education Officer/AA advisor can come to the school and work out a programme with the designated teacher that can be followed in school and outside.

Further details can be found at <http://www.artsaward.org.uk/site/?id=64> or by contacting the Education Officer (see below)

Outreach

The Education Officer would be happy to come to your school to do artefact handling sessions with small, or larger, groups. Such sessions are extended versions of the museum handling sessions, but give more opportunity for individual contact with the objects, pair and small group work, and presentation of findings.

There is always a story, or mystery, to be unravelled, to which the objects hold the key, so that they may be seen not as an end in themselves, but as a means by which we can uncover the past.



Full details of sessions can be found on our education website: www.dennyeducation.co.uk

Contact details

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Gifted & Talented Programme 2014-2015

We offer a wide range of activities suitable for Gifted & Talented groups of all ages both on-site and off.



Things to see



Things to create



Outreach



Things to discuss



Things to find

Visits to the Museum and Abbey

We welcome pre-booked groups to the museum, and are happy to do activities throughout the year. Most of the site is accessible for wheelchair users, including disabled toilets.

We are well aware of the difficulties for schools of bringing whole year groups to the museum. Fortunately, we are well equipped to welcome smaller parties such as those on the Gifted and Talented register. Our Education Brochure sets out the main sessions that we offer; the purpose of this leaflet is to demonstrate how such activities can stretch and inspire the most able children.

Handling sessions

Firstly, there is the experience of seeing and handling objects from the past and discovering what they looked like and how they were used. But this is only a starting point for deductive thinking about the people who owned and used them and, by extension, the societies in which they lived.



Craft sessions

These are fun and engaging, but they have a more serious purpose. What better way to experience life in the past than by carrying out the same activities? Then comparisons, and deductions, can be made about the differences in lifestyles between the past and present.



Exploring sessions

The abbey is just one of our buildings which is a superb resource for observational, recording and deductive work. It lends itself perfectly to the local history site report. Changes in architecture and use can be found in the remains, and its links with national events explored. It and the cottage also lend themselves well to literacy work.



Discussing sessions

The site is a mirror of significant historical events, and debates can be encouraged over such topics as enclosure, drainage of the Fens, herbal vs scientific medicine, and many others



Other curriculum areas

We do not simply focus on History. We are an excellent resource for the study of Art and Architecture, Technology, Literacy and Drama, among others. We are also a registered Arts Award Centre.

The New Curriculum

There are two main areas of the new History curriculum for which we are particularly suited to Gifted & Talented pupils at Key Stages 2 & 3:

The local study over time

Farming has been carried out on and around the site for over 2000 years, and its development can be traced through the machinery in our collection which tells the story of the changes wrought by the Agricultural Revolution and post-war technological advances. **Changes in living** is another theme that can be traced through the abbey, the cottage, and comparisons with today.

The study of a local site

Bronze Age and Roman artefacts have been found at Denny, and the Abbey itself dates from 1159, so the site has seen continuous occupation for several thousand years. Its significance is as an abbey, a home for the Knights Templar, a victim of the Dissolution, and an important farming estate. A visit to the site will enable clues to all these events to be discovered, and can be augmented by sessions that will put the buildings into context.

At KS3, we are also well equipped to help with the **'society, economy and culture'** element of the Medieval Britain module.

Charges: please see our Education Leaflet, or our education website: www.dennyeducation.co.uk for full details of charges, sessions, and special offers, or ring/email the Education Officer.