

The Collection

Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire

Investigate Learning Team Volunteer Role Description

Whether you are 16 and just starting out, looking to gain experience in heritage learning or looking to try something new – you may very well be able to support us.

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers with excellent communication skills, who are interested in supporting the Investigate Learning Team in their delivery of workshops and holiday events.

As a volunteer you will be part of the learning team so we are looking for volunteers who are positive, have a sense of fun and want to make the day as special as possible for our visitors. We want to ensure we give the best learning experience possible, this means smiling, making eye contact, engaging in conversation and talking positively about the site and learning events.

About the role:

The Investigate Learning Team work across several of the Lincolnshire County Council heritage sites and deliver a number of learning Workshop (part or full day), Guided and Self-led Experiences. The full programme is available to view in the Investigate Learning brochure and on the website www.investigateteam.com. The team delivers a range of history, archaeology and art, science & technology workshops which include sessions such as, gallery, bailey or wall tours, handling objects, costumes, role plays, storytelling, immersive games, archaeology mini digs, scientific investigation creative arts and crafts.

Workshops are immersive and hands-on with excellent resources. The workshops delivered most often are to primary schools but our offer spans ages 3-5 to 18+. Group sizes can vary depending upon the activity and space used across the sites and we offer experiences to a variety of education institutions, including Early Years providers, primary, secondary, SEND, behaviour units, home schooling groups, foreign school groups, colleges and universities. The Learning Team has a wealth of knowledge, skill and experience in delivering the topics and are very passionate about their work.

The aim is to provide the visitors to the learning team with an experience to remember and to provide activities that cannot be replicated easily in the classroom environment without the wonderful sites and collections available to the team. The workshop timings can be flexible and are dependent upon the prearranged timetable and time of arrival (transport can affect this). The topics delivered vary across the sites and volunteers may prefer particular periods of history to support.

Why volunteer with us?

There are many benefits to volunteering for the Heritage Service; you will gain experience of working in a gallery and museum environment, enhance your visitor experience skills and have the opportunity to further your knowledge of heritage learning.

The experience can be added to your CV and a reference can be provided for you by the Learning Officer or Learning Manager.

When we need you?

Times allocated will depend upon the workshop calendar during the school terms or the events during the school holidays. Generally a day a week on a particular site 9am to 3pm (or part day) is the usual format but timetables can be bespoke.

What are the main tasks and responsibilities ?

- Supporting the learning team during the workshops by engaging with the activities and visitors in a positive and friendly manner as well as the set up and take down of workshop sessions.
- Contributing to the maintenance of excellent standards of tidiness and cleanliness in the learning spaces.
- Providing visitors with information and support to ensure they have a positive visit.
- Collaborating with the team and other volunteers carrying out learning roles.
- Contributing to the delivery of effective Health and Safety practice across the site, ensuring the safety and security of visitors, staff and other members of the public.

What skills and experience do I need?

You will need to demonstrate

- passion for art and heritage. Previous experience of working with groups of children preferably across different ages and abilities is desired.
- basic knowledge of the history of Lincolnshire and a willingness to learn more about the history of the site.
- basic knowledge of interpretative techniques, for example, drama, role play, object handling, presentations, guided tours etc
- excellent communication and interpersonal skills and be a good team worker with a positive attitude, energy and enthusiasm.

What support will I get?

Our friendly Learning Team will be on hand to support you during your role and provide you with all the advice and help you need. There will be plenty of time for you to see and experience the museum, Usher Gallery and temporary exhibitions and our Exhibition's Team will provide you with useful guides and learning plans to help you answer questions.

What else do I need to know?

The Collection and Usher Gallery are located in the town centre and is in easy reach of the train station, bus station and local town centre car parks. In certain circumstances, it is possible to reclaim mileage, car parking fees and bus and train fares when volunteering with us.

Whilst we will not be able to provide you with a uniform, we do encourage volunteers to wear smart casual clothing.

How do I apply?

Complete an application form available from the museum reception or by email thecollection@lincolnshire.gov.uk or apply online www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/volunteering

We receive lots of application forms and not everyone is successful, if you are unsuccessful on this occasion we will let you know the reasons why.

Successful applicants will be invited to an informal interview at The Collection.

Need more information?

If you have any questions or need further information about this role. Please contact The Collection via email thecollection@lincolnshire.gov.uk or telephone 01522 550965.

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