



Learning & Participation Policy and Principles

Learning and participation is at the heart of everything we do; learning is for everyone. We aim to create as many opportunities as possible to connect people with our collections, displays, historic site and with each other across the generations. We aim to develop inclusive learning and participation activities where enjoyment, inspiration, respect and understanding can flourish among all ages and abilities.

We aim to address a broad range of learners' interests and needs with the aim of enhancing wellbeing, inspiring a lifetime of curiosity, and creating access to heritage and culture.

Underpinning everything we do are our Values. These set the scene for all our activity and reflect how we work and behave.

Understanding: We promote an understanding of the lives of soldiers and their families, military and social history, and our nation's wider history at home and abroad. We build understanding by encouraging dialogue, debate and by presenting different points of view. We are understanding and supportive of each other in the workplace.

Exploring: We promote active learning by bringing stories to life through hands-on experience of our collections and the stories they tell, and by exploring ideas through questioning, creativity and fun. As a team we explore and share ideas together.

Connecting: We connect different generations, exploring memories of the past and making new ones. We make local, national and international connections with diverse civilian and military communities. We communicate and collaborate to reap the benefits of our different skills, experience and perspectives.

Respecting: We actively demonstrate our respect for diverse people, cultures and perspectives. We respect the commitment and sacrifice of the military and civilians along with communities impacted by conflict. We are respectful and courteous to each other.

Serving: We pride ourselves in the quality of our service to visitors, researchers and the community. We strive to serve our communities by sharing our knowledge and expertise via

our research service, high-quality interpretation, and by the stewardship and care of our collections.

Our Learning and Participation Aims

1. Be experimental and improve the overall quality of learning experiences on offer.
2. Develop high quality, fun and engaging learning experiences both formally and informally for all ages and abilities.
3. Create inspiring programmes that encourage a wide range of people to enjoy, learn about and become involved in the museum.
4. Explore collaborative ways of using our collections and site to create positive changes in the lives of people and communities.
5. Promote hands-on learning with museum objects.
6. Involve and consult participants in shaping our learning and participation activities.
7. Ensure our learning and participation activities are well-managed and sustainable.
8. Increase access awareness and understanding of the museum collection and the use of advocacy to raise awareness of education and learning at Bodmin Keep.
9. Widen relationships with and sustain opportunities for diverse audiences.

Principles that Guide our Learning and Participation Activities

- People must feel safe, respected and welcome when they learn at the museum.
- People learn in different ways and have different strengths and interests. Our collection provides us with unique opportunities for new interpretations and participatory experiences.
- Finding ways to include more voices and perspectives in the museum's interpretation of its collections.
- Our learning and participation programmes aim to reflect the diversity of people locally, nationally and globally.
- Working in collaboration with others enables us to learn and develop, be relevant to the community, and become more sustainable.

- Ongoing, thoughtful evaluation involving informal and formal dialogue with participants and partners enables us to improve and develop what we have to offer.
- Programmes should inspire and motivate the continuation of learning, engagement and volunteering beyond the visit, to create enthusiastic lifelong learners who feel confident accessing culture.
- Hands-on learning with objects should be celebrated and continually strengthened.
- We should effectively share the knowledge and expertise gained through engagement and partnership working to benefit all learning programmes, staff, participants and the wider sector.

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