

Astley Hall and Coach House Schools Programme

Information for teachers

Welcome

Astley Hall is Tudor manor house, surrounded by beautiful parkland. Built in 1578 and given to the Council in 1922, Astley Hall spans many fascinating historical periods and offers countless opportunities for learning outside the classroom. Our art gallery is home to a number of changing exhibitions each year and we encourage all schools to bring their pupils to visit to enhance Art and Design learning.

Astley Coach House contains our purpose built Activity Room for schools, as well as the Chorley Remembrance Experience; an immersive gallery based on the experiences of Chorley in the First World War and subsequent conflicts.

Astley Farmhouse is home to a variety of community groups who use our two gallery spaces to curate temporary exhibitions. The Lancashire Family History Society are based within the Farmhouse and are always happy to help with research for school projects.

We offer a variety of sessions, rooted in the local experience and linked to various aspects of the curriculum. We encourage pupils to develop skills such as historical enquiry, literacy and communication.

“A fantastic day which the children and adults really enjoyed. So well prepared/delivered, we will definitely be returning” Euxton Primrose Hill

We can cater for all key stages and are happy to tailor sessions to suit your topic, given enough notice. Schools are welcome to combine 2 half day sessions to make up a full day.

For the majority of our sessions, the maximum number of pupils we can accommodate in one visit is 36. If you are conducting a teacher led visit and wish to bring more, this may be possible depending on the type of work you wish to do. Please ring and let us know the format of your day and any requests.

If there is a particular project your school is working on please let us know and if possible we can incorporate extra information to suit your needs.

To book onto one of our sessions, or for more information please contact Astley Hall on 01257 515151 or via Astley.Hall@chorley.gov.uk

Educational sessions KS1 and KS2



Astley Through the Ages

Half-day session

£3.00 per pupil (min cost £60)

Pupils explore the house and grounds of Astley Hall to learn more about their local history and its' relation to wider events and changes. Pupils will learn how to use both Primary and Secondary sources. This session can be adapted to suit your school so please get in touch to discuss your requirements.

Additional option: a member of our learning team can deliver a 40 minute outreach session to kick-start your Local History topic for a cost of £40.

Curriculum links

History

- ❖ ***KS1 "Historical people, places and events within own locality"***
- ❖ ***KS2 "A Local history Study"***
- ❖ ***KS2 "A study extending pupils knowledge beyond 1066"***

Plague, Potions and Pestilence

Half day session

£3.00 per pupil (min cost £60)

We use the hall and gardens to investigate the Plague that struck Chorley in 1631 and how herbs and plants were used for medicines and hygiene. Pupils will:

- Meet Lady Bridget Molyneux's House Maid and help her to pick out herbs for remedies
- Make a plague bag using plants from the garden
- Explore the Astley Hall "Still Room" where lotions and potions using plants/herbs are made.
- Dress up as the Plague Doctor and investigate gory stories of ailments and cures in the 17th century

Curriculum links:

History

- ❖ ***KS1 "Historical people, places and events within own locality"***
- ❖ ***KS2 "A study extending pupils knowledge beyond 1066"***
- ❖ ***KS2 "A local history study"***



Serving Stories

**Half day session: £3.00 per pupil
(min cost £60)**

**Full day session: £4.00 per pupil
(min cost £100)**

Firmly rooted in Local History, pupils learn about the people who lived at Astley Hall in 1851. The house-maids take the pupils on an immersive tour as they find out what life was like for a servant at Astley Hall.

Pupils will:

- Discover more about Lady Hoghton and the 11 servants who lived at Astley Hall in 1851
- Play a game to introduce them to the various servants and jobs at Astley Hall
- Assist the servants with their domestic duties including making firelighters, folding napkins, sweeping, washing and ironing.
- Investigate Victorian toys and games and have a go.

We provide dressing up clothes for the children at the start of the day.

Curriculum links

History

- ❖ **KS1 "Historical people, places and events within own locality"**
- ❖ **KS2 "A Local history Study"**
- ❖ **KS2 "A study extending pupils knowledge beyond**

"Very informative staff, lovely nature with the children" Highfield Primary School Sept 2014



A Very Victorian Christmas

Seasonal session running November and December

**Half day session 10am-12noon or
12.45pm-2.45pm**

£4.00 per pupil

Bring your school on a trip to Astley Hall to find out more about Christmas traditions and their origins. (Victorian dress recommended!) We can accommodate up to 60 pupils per session.

The day is fast paced and packed with hands-on activities which include:

- Making Christmas cards and decorations
- Object Handling (rich/poor children's toys)
- Victorian parlour games and carol singing
- Visiting the cook as she prepares for the Christmas feast

Curriculum links

History

- ❖ **KS1 "Historical people, places and events within own locality"**
- ❖ **KS2 "A Local history Study"**
- ❖ **KS2 "A study extending pupils knowledge beyond 1066"**

Homes a Long Time Ago

Half day session 10am-12noon £3.00 per pupil

Aimed at KS1, this session is a gentle introduction to how people lived in the past. Pupils will:

- Look at how buildings change over time through a tour of the building and sketching activities.
- Gain insight into domestic life as they have a go at washing clothes and sweeping without washing machines and vacuums!
- Investigate objects found in an old house and guess the uses of mystery objects.

Curriculum links

History

- ❖ **KS1 “Historical people, places and events within own locality”**

Textiles: Weaving and Dyeing

Half day session 10am-11.30am £3.00 per pupil

This session uses our 17th Century tapestries of “Jason and the Golden Fleece” as a starting point for investigating weaving and different types of materials.

The session includes:

- Investigating the history of weaving and tapestries.
- Sorting woven and non-woven fabrics
- Weaving on a small handheld loom.
- Contributing to our large tapestry on the tapestry loom.

Curriculum links

Art and Design- enables pupils to:

- ❖ **Learn about great artists in history**
- ❖ **To improve their mastery of art and design techniques**
- ❖ **Learn about the work of a variety of artists and craft makers**

SEN sessions

Half day session 10am-12noon £3.00 per head or minimum of £60 per session

We can adapt any of the above sessions to cater for schools who have pupils with additional requirements. Please get in touch to discuss with a member of staff. Our sessions are interactive, flexible and pupil-centered.

Educational sessions for KS3 and above

We run bespoke sessions for Secondary schools and Colleges who can make use of the building and its' fantastic collections for a variety of different topics. Our collections are an excellent starting point for studying:

- Tudor life
- Civil War, Interregnum and Reformation (Astley Hall has strong links to Oliver Cromwell)
- Chorley in the 1st World War
- Art and design/craftsmanship
- Local History
- Citizenship
- Medicine through time

We can assist schools by arranging access to some of our archives and collections. Please get in touch with the Astley staff to discuss your individual requirements.

Resource Boxes

We are currently developing our resource boxes that are available for schools/groups to loan. They contain a mixture of real and replica artefacts, alongside teachers notes and suggested activities. We currently offer boxes on the subject of:

- Chorley's War- A look at the 1st World War and the Chorley Pals
- Feast!- Created to help schools set up their own Medieval/Tudor feast in their classrooms

Please get in touch for further information about cost of hire and box contents.

Temporary Exhibitions

We are happy to accommodate school visits to our temporary art exhibitions within Astley Hall as well as the Chorley Remembrance Experience in the Coach House. We usually arrange slots for an hour at a time and can provide clipboards and pencils for your visit. Please get in touch to discuss your requirements. You can keep up to date with our exhibitions at:

<http://chorley.gov.uk/Pages/AtoZ/Astley-Hall.aspx>

Important Information for your visit

Facilities and accessibility

We can provide a room for the children to have lunch. Please help us to keep this room tidy as other people may have to use this room later the same day.

Inside the hall we have one male and one female toilet. There are additional toilets in the Coach House and outside toilets at the Farmhouse.

The ground floor of the museum is accessible for wheelchair users. The upper floors are only accessible by stairs as Astley Hall is a Grade 1 listed building. Please let us know of any wheelchair users when enquiring about a visit so activities on the ground floor can be arranged.

Goody bags

We can provide pre-made gift bags of £1, £2 or £3 value. These will be handed out at the end of the day and added to the invoice for the visit.

Safety

We have a generic schools risk assessment that will be sent out with your confirmation email, to go alongside your own risk assessment. We recommend teachers do a preliminary visit.

There is ample parking for the coaches in the Astley Village car park. Please be aware of delivery trucks and other motor vehicles whose drivers are not expecting to come into contact with groups of school children.

Payment

Chorley Council will invoice the school after your visit. There is no need to bring any money on the day.

We have to charge VAT for schools who have opted out of LEA control and for independent schools.

How to book

Phone 01257 515151 or email Astley.Hall@chorley.gov.uk to make a preliminary enquiry.

You will then complete a booking form and sent a booking confirmation, along with our risk assessment and any pre-visit materials.

How to find us

Chorley is easy to find - just off junction 8 of the M61. From there follow the many brown tourist road signs to Astley Hall, which is to the west of Chorley town centre off the A581 Chorley-Southport Road.

We are also only a 15 minute drive from junction 27 of the M6, simply follow the A49 Preston route until you see the brown signs at the village of Euxton. Parking for cars and coaches is available in the Astley Village car park to the rear of Astley Hall.

If using a **SatNav please use postcode PR7 1XA**

