

Southwell Minster and The Archbishop's Palace



# School Visits

for Key Stages 1, 2 &  
Early Years Foundation Stage



[www.southwellminster.org](http://www.southwellminster.org)

 @SouthwellMinster  @minster\_ed  southwellminster



Southwell  
Minster



## Welcome

Southwell Minster is the Cathedral for the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham and a centre of prayer and worship for the region. With the Archbishop's Palace and Education Garden, it is an awe-inspiring, rich learning resource. Steeped in history from its Roman and Saxon beginnings, with soaring medieval Romanesque and Gothic stonework, Victorian furniture and modern sculpture, the site tells the cultural history of our country.

Outlined here are events and activities for schools, adaptable for SEND, Parish and Community groups or to suit your learning objectives. The Minster lends itself as a stimulus for learning in many subjects including RE (linked to the Notts Agreed Syllabus and Understanding Christianity concepts), History, Art & Literacy. Our aim is to deliver relevant, interactive sessions, giving staff the chance to relax, have a cuppa and enjoy the visit too. We look forward to welcoming you and your pupils.

With best wishes

*Diana, Matt and the education team*



*"Children were asked to evaluate and think.... I was astounded by their observations and reflections..."*

*(Education Volunteer)*

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## Tailor-Made Learning

Adaptable for full day, half day or as a series of short 'taster' modules—mix and match elements to suit you.

**Worship and Sacred Space:** A look at furniture, special clothes, signs, symbols and / or faith practice. Choose the content to suit your needs.

**Music:** become a chorister and sing with professional musicians, listen to sacred music, join a costumed procession, organ demonstration.

**Explore the Bible:** best loved stories / parables told in different ways.

**Journey of Life / Remembrance:** a sensitive exploration of rites of passage (birth, marriage, death), how and why they are marked in a church. Discover how and why the Minster is a place of public and private remembrance.

**Spirituality and Art:** A look at our collection of stained glass, sculpture and paintings—a reflective exploration. Creative art or poetry sessions available.

**Faces and Forces/Art and Architecture:** Science and art meet at the Minster—we learn how it is both strong and beautiful!

**Who, What, Where, When...?:** A chronological, interactive romp through the Minster's history from the Romans to the present day.



**Pilgrimage experience:** Become a Medieval / Saxon pilgrim. May include: Costume, quills, ancient texts & illumination, herbs and medieval artefacts.

**Shape, space and measurement:** For Key Stage 1.

**Time and space:** sketch, reflect or think. Reflective activities available.

*"All the activities were well thought out and hooked the children... they will remember it for years to come." (Teacher, Key Stage 2)*

**Can't find what you need? Give us a call to discuss bespoke learning sessions.**



## Early Years Foundation Stage

*"...the volunteers were wonderful. They had a lovely manner and their prior experience of working with children clearly shone through."*

*(Foundation Stage teacher)*

Themed, introductory visits to the Minster for our youngest visitors created with the Early Learning goals in mind. Using language and observation skills, developing awe and wonder, we take a one hour interactive tour of the Minster in small groups, with a drink, biscuit and story. For a half day we add craft and active themed games / songs.

One hour session: £2.50 per child

Full morning or afternoon £3.50 per child

Nursery Rhymes

Colours

Shapes

Opposites

Measures

Story Seekers

Animal safari

Nature all Around (NEW!)



## Christian Festivals: Explore Easter and Christmas

Add depth to your teaching about key concepts in Christianity as we investigate how and why these great festivals are celebrated. Material is adaptable for any age group and we use drama, crafts, story telling and close observation of artefacts to help us explore. Links to 'Understanding Christianity' and the Nottinghamshire Agreed Syllabus for RE. *Full or half day.*

**Easter: spring term**

**Christmas: November / December**



## Annual Year 6 Festival : 'Make a Difference'

(information / booking form sent to all church schools in January)

*"We love coming to the Year 6 leavers' day, it definitely 'makes a difference' to our year 6 children.... Super messages given to take back and follow up."* (Year 6 teacher)

Our special days in July for year 6 students making the transition to secondary school offer time to celebrate the past and look forward to the future. With a reflective trail, crafts and activities in the Minster and a dramatic retelling of the story of William Booth by Footprints Theatre, children consider what it takes to 'Make a Difference'.

**Donation £5 per child to help with costs**

To book, contact us or download booking form from [www.southwellminster.org/learning](http://www.southwellminster.org/learning)

**Note: final content and programme for Year 6 days may be subject to change.**



## Romans In Southwell: Activity Day

Southwell stands on the site of a Roman villa – one of the largest in the country. Together with Southwell Community Archaeology Group, our day comprises 3 hands-on sessions.

**Archaeology:** Wash and identify genuine Southwell finds, look at archaeological evidence and make a pottery 'sherd'.

**Living History:** Look at settlements and consider what life was like in 'our' villa. Artefacts to handle, crafts, costumes and daily life.

**Site exploration:** using a map and photos, investigate the site to find key parts of our villa.



## Time Travelling: Pilgrimage Days Key Stages 1&2

"...we went to Southwell Minster and it was an awesome experience. Me and Isla had to go up and get our candle... then we sang 'God Goes With Us'. The saddest part was leaving, but it was the best trip ever."

(Oliver, Year 5 pupil)



Bring your RE teaching to life as you join with schools from across the region in becoming modern day pilgrims, journeying and learning together as you explore Christianity through architecture, symbols, belief and practice. Gather to sing special songs, meet a priest and hear the organ. A warm welcome awaits you – refreshments provided for staff.

Learning outcomes are taken from the Nottinghamshire RE Agreed Syllabus and linked to the 'Understanding Christianity' concepts.



### Key Stage 2: March

£4 per child 10am-2.15pm. Bring packed lunch – indoor space provided.

### Key Stage 1: June

£3 per child 10am-12.30pm. Schools may stay for a picnic lunch (room provided if wet), and enjoy optional self-led activities in the afternoon.

For more information or to download booking form, visit

[www.southwellminster.org/timetravelling](http://www.southwellminster.org/timetravelling)

or call us 01636 817993

NB: Booking forms are sent to all City / County schools in September

"Time Travelling is a tour de force of heritage education."

(Sandford Award Judge's Report 2018)



# The Archbishop's Palace and Education Garden

*"We were really impressed with the organisation, enthusiasm of the staff and how welcome we were made to feel."*

*(Year 5 teacher, 'The Dark Book')*

To the south of the Minster lie the Palace ruins containing the magnificent State Chamber. A home of the medieval Archbishops of York, the site has a stunning community garden, where we can learn and play.

**The Dark Book** (Key Stage 2): The year is 1108, Archbishop Gerard of York is found dead in the Palace gardens. Using evidence based enquiry, we investigate his life and death, learning about medieval life, and pass judgement on him: was he a saint or sinner?

**Town Tales** (Key Stages 1 & 2): Specially written stories bring the history of the palace alive.

**Poetry** (Key Stages 1 & 2): Creative fun with words taking inspiration from the site.

**Playing and Learning** (All age groups): Fill a day with outdoor / indoor fun—green men, herbs, scavenger hunt, minibeasts, parachute games, story circle and more to suit you.

**Leaves of Southwell**



The Minster has been awarded a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to repair part of the roof and undertake conservation and accessibility work to the Chapter House. This exciting project will evolve over 3 years. Watch out for new learning opportunities in the garden and Minster with a leaves feel!





## Special Events / Family Fun

**Visual Arts Programme:** Explore the latest exhibition of sculpture, textiles or paintings. We offer bespoke tours and workshops inspired by the style and theme for all age groups.

**Remembrance:** An upper KS2 day of art, music or drama and poetry exploring how and why we remember the tragedy of war, and consider peace in our time. Especially appropriate in November.

**World Book Day:** Explore the best selling book of all time—the Bible!

**Cathedral in Schools:** Some of our sessions can be delivered in school. Contact us to discuss your requirements.

**Informal Learning:** trails are available in the Minster and Palace for children and families all year round. No booking needed, free to enter. Look out for our themed family fun days during school holidays. Check the website or contact the office for details.

## Practical Information

In cold or wet weather you'll be provided with a room to eat packed lunches at no charge. Risk assessment notes are provided, pre-visits welcomed. The Minster is a very safe place to visit. Visits are planned, delivered and organised by Diana Ives (Education Officer), with Matt Hustwayte (Administrator) and our volunteer team. For most visits we invite donations of £4.50 per child (full day); £3.50 (half day) to help with costs. The Cathedral subsidises the schools' programme.

*For more information, to book or find out about joining the volunteer team contact:*

*Cathedral Education, Jubilee House,  
8 Westgate, Southwell, NG25 0JH*

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