

Southwell Minster

School Visits Programme

Nearly 2000 years of stories to discover



Southwell
Minster

Cathedral ♦ Gardens ♦ Palace



Watch me learn!

Welcome



A place to learn

Southwell Minster is one of England's 42 Anglican Cathedrals. It occupies a historic site in stunning, leafy grounds just half an hour from Nottingham, and has nearly 2,000 years of stories to discover.

Events and bespoke sessions are curriculum-linked, support learning and encourage curiosity, enquiry and reflection in a safe and welcoming environment.

We hope to be able to welcome you and your pupils to this special place soon.

Best wishes

Diana Kirby & the Education Team

What pupils gain:

- Real experiences of history and faith
- Opportunity to explore and ask questions
- Memorable, meaningful learning
- Engaging activities

For teachers:

- Fully planned and resourced sessions led by experienced staff and volunteers
- Support throughout your visit
- Chance to relax and enjoy the sessions with pupils
- A cup of tea /coffee



"The range of information covered is excellent. Each of the three presenters knew how to speak to the children at their level. Facilities were very good and all staff were warm and polite."



www.southwellminster.org/learning



For all enquiries: 01636 817816 / education@southwellminster.org.uk

Early Years Foundation Stage



Southwell Minster - a Special Place

Developed with the Early Learning Goals in mind



EYFS visits

One of our gentle, themed introductory visits helps to build children's understanding of the world by using rich language and encouraging careful observation, while inspiring a sense of awe and wonder.

Choose your theme:

- Christmas
- Easter
- Colours
- Nursery Rhymes
- Animals
- Shapes



"Diana and the volunteers excel at really engaging the children. Everyone was so so friendly." EYFS Teacher



A themed half-day visit comprises:

- ✓ Interactive themed trail
- ✓ Story and refreshments
- ✓ Craft activity
- ✓ Songs and games
- ✓ Pause for reflection



To book contact us: 01636 817816 / education@southwellminster.org.uk

Key Stage 1 & 2

RE to suit you

Recommended by the Notts Agreed Syllabus for RE



Bespoke RE

Theme a day around your RE learning outcomes or unit of study eg: sacred space; art & architecture; belief, worship and faith practices; signs and symbols; pilgrimage.

Your visit comprises:

- ✓ Welcome and themed introduction
- ✓ Guided exploration: activities in small groups, led by the education team
- ✓ Take-away craft
- ✓ Refreshments for staff

"Every activity is meaningful and has impact. I know from previous visits that the children remember what was taught and refer back to it in our future RE lessons." KS1 Teacher

Festivals



Why are the great Christian festivals important to Christians and how does the Minster tell the story of Easter and Christmas?

Pupils will:

- Investigate how and why these festivals are celebrated
- Use drama, story-telling and observation of art and artefacts
- Find time for reflection
- Make a themed craft to take home

EASTER - Spring Term
CHRISTMAS - Nov/Dec



Choose: Full or half day

To book contact us: 01636 817816 / education@southwellminster.org.uk

Time Travelling



Annual flagship RE event 

Bringing RE to life - Linked to the Notts Agreed Syllabus for RE



Time Travelling

'A special place for me...'

Our schools' pilgrimage event has been running for over 30 years! Each day hundreds of children and passionate volunteer guides and activity leaders come together from across the Diocese and become pilgrims for the day:

Travelling... Learning... Connecting

KS2 (Yrs 3-5)
Full day: March



KS1 (Yrs 1&2)
Half day: June

"...such an impressive building gave the children a definite sense of wonder and awe which fits with our work on spirituality and the wows, nows and ows of life."

KS2 teacher, Time Travelling visit

Pupils will:

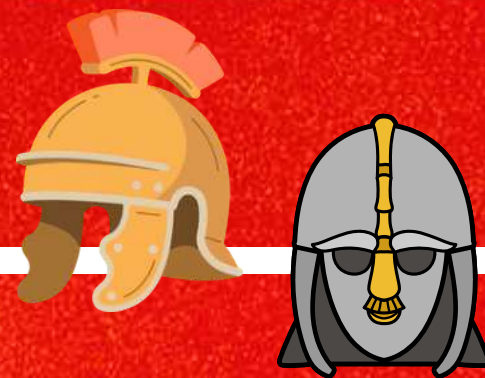
- Make a modern-day Pilgrimage to a special place in the company of a pilgrim guide
- Investigate beliefs and practices
- Explore a living place of worship
- Hear the organ; sing together!
- Meet a priest
- Make a craft



Book online. Full information is emailed to all schools in September.

Book Time Travelling here: www.southwellminster.org/timetravelling

History days



For Key Stage 2

History days are supported by Southwell Community Archaeology Group



The Romans in Southwell

Investigate the Southwell villa, its inhabitants and the evidence they left behind.



Pupils will:

- Gain an understanding of historical chronology
- Use hands-on, evidence-based enquiry to find out about the Southwell villa
- Handle real and replica objects
- Explore settlements and life in the villa
- Become 'archaeologists' and visit the site of the Roman villa
- Make a Roman-themed craft / 'temple offering'

"Handling the objects really brought history to life and one child said they now want to be an archaeologist ... We learnt so much about how the Romans cooked, worshipped and built their settlements. It is amazing to have Roman history right on our doorstep." KS2 Teacher

Anglo-Saxons

Explore the hidden history of Anglo-Saxon Southwell using different sources of evidence.



Pupils will:

- Investigate local Anglo-Saxon burial practices as sources of evidence
- Handle objects
- Use drama to tell the story of how Christianity spread from the Kingdom of Kent to Mercia
- Go on an Anglo-Saxon pilgrimage
- Make an Anglo-Saxon brooch



Full day. In-school sessions available.

To book contact us: 01636 817816 / education@southwellminster.org.uk

Year 6



July Transition Days

Celebrate the past; look forward to the future



Year 6 Festival: 'Stepping Up'

A day of calm in July amid the end of year whirlwind to help prepare for and mark the transition to secondary school.



This unique full-day visit is designed for church schools but all are welcome as we wish our Year 6 pupils from across the Diocese well in their new phase of life.

**Get in touch for workshop themes
dates and cost**

"It was lovely to see my lively end-of-year class in the Minster environment so calm and engaged. Such an incredibly uplifting experience for me personally and just what they needed to see them to the end of term...." Year 6 Teacher

Pupils will:

- Join in opening and closing worship
- Reflect on their own lives
- Discover inspiring stories of people and the Minster from its long history
- Participate in workshops (themes vary)
- Complete the Year 6 Minster Trail with crafts, activities and reflection



Book online.
Information will be sent to church schools in January.



Book Year 6 online here: www.southwellminster.org/year6

Practical Information



Plan your visit with confidence

"The children were made to feel happy, secure and welcome. This was an outstanding visit!"

Timings:

Full day - 10am-2.15pm

Half day - 10am-12pm

Our usual days are Tuesday / Wednesday

Getting Here:

- Half an hour from Nottingham city centre
- Central Southwell location
- Coach drop-off outside the Minster
- Free car/minibus parking nearby

Can't afford the bus?

Some sessions may be delivered in your school

How to Book:

Time Travelling and our Year 6 Festival can be booked via our website

www.southwellminster.org/learning

For all other visits, and to find out more information contact us ideally at least one term ahead. Contact details below.



Photos: Simon Ford & Diana Ives



Facilities / Lunch:

Packed lunches may be eaten in the grounds, with indoor spaces available in poor weather. Toilets, including accessible toilet, are on-site.

Accessibility:

Please discuss access needs before you come. Further information can be found on the '[Plan Your School Visit](#)' page of the website.



"Volunteers and staff were very warm and welcoming. They encouraged the children well and supported those who needed extra help. Nothing was too much trouble."

Costs:

There is a charge per child which contributes towards our costs (adults go free). All visits are subsidised by the Minster.

Diana Ives (Head of Education)

Kirby Stebbing (Education Administrator)

To find out more: www.southwellminster.org/learning

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