



SCHOOLS

Frequently Asked Questions

What activities do you offer KS1 children?

- *Polly's Story*. Polly and her family lived in the East End of London over 100 years ago. Left alone on Monday morning, 6 year old Polly is left to do all the family chores for the week. Based on family life and the days of the week, children taking part in *Polly's Story* will sing songs and rhymes, handle real historic artefacts and learn first hand how hard home-life was for large poor families who lived with no electricity or modern comforts. Give your students the chance to perform *Polly's Story* live in our East End kitchen!
- School groups visiting in the morning can also take part in the KS1 version of the *Victorian Lesson* (see below in KS2 section for more information about this session).

What activities do you offer KS2 children?

- *The Victorian Lesson*. As delivered by an actor in full Victorian dress and set in an authentic replica of one of Dr Barnardo's classrooms where he taught thousands of Victorian street children, this session delivers an unforgettable experience for children. Pupils will be transported back to the 1880s and learn first hand what Victorian schooling was really like. No nonsense will be tolerated in the classroom!
- *The East End Kitchen*. Once the reading, writing and arithmetic tasks have been completed, visiting schools also enjoy a session in our East End kitchen. Members of the class will hop into the tin bath, scrub the family's washing clean, fill the kettle, stoke the coal fire, beat the rag rug clean and feel the weight of the flat irons. Led by staff, this session is very hands-on and encourages children to get involved.

What activities do you offer KS3 children?

- Having successfully piloted our Key Stage 3 Programme last year we are currently seeking to secure funding to make it a permanent part of our Schools Programme.

What activities do you offer Special Education Needs children?

- The museum offers specially designed SEN sessions focused on the Victorian period which explore the concept of old and new. In these sessions, led by trained staff, children will handle historical objects and costumes from both the Victorian schoolroom and home. SEN sessions are held on the ground floor to ensure easy wheelchair access.
- Please call us to discuss the requirements of your group. We work with the class teacher to ensure that the session will meet your students' needs.

What time do the activities start & finish?

- Morning bookings run from 10.30am – 1.15pm (including a lunch break)
- Afternoon bookings run from 1.30pm - 3.15pm (you can finish earlier if you need to)
- Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your start time so that the children can put their bags and coats away and use the toilets if required.

What does it cost?

Your school must pay a booking fee

- £15 if booking for one class
- £20 if booking for two or more classes

KS1 charges:

- Booking fee, plus
- £3.50 per child for *Polly's Story*
- £4.50 per child for *Polly Story* and the *KS1 Victorian Lesson*
- No charges apply for accompanying teachers and parent helpers
- Minimum class size 15 children, maximum class size 34 children
- KS1 sessions are offered in the following 4 weeks of this school year:
 - Monday 2nd to Friday 6th February 2009
 - Monday 16th to Friday 20th March 2009
 - Tuesday 5th to Friday 8th May 2009
 - Monday 29th June to Friday 3rd July 2009

KS2 charges:

- Booking fee, plus
- £4.75 per child, or
- £4.00 per child for Tower Hamlets state schools
- No charges apply for accompanying teachers and parent helpers
- Minimum class size 23 children, maximum class size 34 children
- KS2 sessions run throughout the school year

KS3 charges:

- Booking fee, plus
- £4.50 per child
- No charges apply for accompanying teachers and parent helpers
- Minimum class size 23 children, maximum class size 34 children

SEN charges:

- Booking fee, plus
- £40 per booking (we do not charge per child for SEN sessions)
- There is no minimum class size, the maximum is 24
- SEN sessions are available on Monday, Tuesday & Friday afternoons only

How do I book a school visit?

- Contact our Schools Team to make a booking. You can call them on 020 8980 6405 or email them on schools@raggedschoolmuseum.org.uk
- At the time of booking, we will send you a confirmation form which you must return to us along with your booking fee at least 4 weeks before the date of your visit. Your booking is not secured until we receive this.
- We are a very popular destination for visiting schools so please book well in advance to avoid disappointment.

How should we pay for our visit?

- Please pay the booking fee by cheque and return this to us with the confirmation form at least 4 weeks before the date of your visit.
- You will be invoiced for the children's entry fees immediately after your trip. This invoice is payable by cheque within 14 days. Please do not bring cash with you on the day to pay for the children's entry fees.
- If you order items from our shop before you visit, we will add this cost to your final invoice. You can then collect the items when you arrive at the Museum.
- If children wish to use the shop on the day of their visit, please ask them to bring cash with them. We make a point of stocking many items under 50p to ensure our shop is as accessible as possible. We cannot accept card payments.

What facilities do you have at the Museum?

We have...

- A Museum Shop selling brilliant Teacher's Packs, Victorian toys, games, slate writing boards, books and many small items under 50p.
- An accessible toilet and full wheelchair access to our Ground Floor, where we hold our SEN sessions.
- A Schools Lunch Room available for schools who book to visit us in the morning only.
- Space to leave bags and coats
- Toilets, a small café and access to the Regent's Canal complete with a working Lock, which is of interest to many visiting schools.
- We also have free coach parking and picnic tables situated in a grass playing field directly opposite our front door. This feature proves very popular with schools who visit us in the summer months.

Do you have disabled access?

- There is full access to the Ground Floor only.
- The Museum is situated in an old building with four flights of internal stairs and has no lift.
- Please advise us when you book whether any children or adults in your group have mobility issues so we can accommodate this.
- Please also advise us of any other disabilities or sensitivities the children may have so we can be sure to adapt the session appropriately.

Do the children have to dress up in Victorian costume?

- No, they don't have to dress up. But if they do, they'll get much more out of their visit.
- In the information pack you will receive when you book, we include some simple and affordable costume suggestions that you can make at school or at home prior to your visit.
- We also suggest that you spend some time in class learning about Victorian boys and girls names so that your students can be 'renamed' and come to the Museum 'in character' if not in costume.
- We have had conversations with adults in their 20s who remember coming to visit us with their school more than a decade ago. All of them remember dressing up as part of their visit and tell us that this was a powerful experience for them as a child.

What's the easiest way to get to you?

- Please see the Visiting Us section of our website for a map of the local area.
- If you're coming by public transport, we are 5-10 minutes walk from Mile End Underground Station.
- We also have free coach parking bays right outside our front door on Copperfield Road.

Can I visit the Museum prior to our trip to undertake a Risk Assessment?

- Yes. Please contact our Schools Team on 020 8980 6405 or schools@raggedschoolmuseum.org.uk to arrange a suitable time.
- We are happy to show you around the museum after the school day and during the school holidays.