Schools Programme





Welcome to Shetland Museum and Archives

Discover Shetland's story through thousands of fascinating objects and documents in our collection. We are a unique learning environment that enables pupils and teachers to explore the collections for inspiration, learning and enjoyment.

Our tours and workshops have been developed to support the Curriculum for Excellence and a range of learning styles.

Plan your visit

All visits in this booklet are free of charge and available all year, subject to staff availability. We are open from 10am – 4pm.

Lunch and snack space

The learning room is available free of charge for packed lunches and snacks when you visit the galleries. Please request at time of booking and ensure the room is left clean and tidy for the next group

Photography

You are welcome to take photos during the visit of our artefacts to use in school, on your website or Class Dojo.

Teacher-led Visits

The learning room is available free of charge if you wish to lead a class visit in the galleries, Da Gadderie or Archives. We can also supply clipboards, etc.

Additional Support Needs

Most of our workshops and tours can be adapted to support Additional Needs. Please contact Learning staff to discuss.

Exchange Visits

We've hosted a number of visits over the years for pupils on exchange visits to Shetland. Please contact us to discuss your needs.

To Book

Booking couldn't be easier, just phone Yvonne Reynolds on 01595 695057 or email:

Yvonne.Reynolds@shetlandamenity.org



Brilliant Boats

Early and first level (nursery - P2)

45minutes

Max 30 pupils

This nautical journey through the museum includes visiting the boat shed where old boats are restored. Pupils will discover why people used/use boats, what equipment you need for your journey and learn all about different parts of boats. Pupils will then build their own peerie boat to take home.

Going Potty Early and first level (nursery - P3)

45 minutes

Max 30 pupils

Pupils explore the pots on display, the oldest of which is 5000 year old. They will investigate the difference between the very old pots compared to the ones used at home. Pupils will have the opportunity to handle real and replica pots then make and decorate their own air-dry clay pot using ancient techniques.



Making a clay pot at Going Potty

Woolly Wonders

Early and first level (nursery - P2)

45minutes

Max 30 pupils divided into two groups

Pupils will have a go at carding, spinning and knitting, then play a matching game in the textile gallery using colour and pattern and dress up in a range of wonderful woolly clothes.

Toys from the Past First level (P1-3)

60 minutes

Max 30 pupils

This tour and workshop aims to develop key skills such as enquiry and observation. On the tour pupils look and handle real and replica toys from the Vikings to the Victorians times. Then investigate old and new toys looking at materials, similarities and differences. There will be time at the end to play with the old toys too.

Highlights Toddle

Early and first level (Nursery - P2)

45minutes

Max 30 pupils

An informal fun tour exploring the museum and handle artefacts. In small groups the children be led through the galleries with our experienced staff who will point out objects, answer questions and make connections with everyday objects.



Discovering what washday was like in the past

Washday First level (P1-P3) 60 minutes

Max 30 pupils

Pupils discover how people washed their clothes in the past. They will see the equipment that people used in crofthouses and Victorian townhouses, and find out how much hard work it was to do your washing compared with today. Back in the learning room, there will be a fun opportunity to work in teams to do all the washday chores.

Early People (4000BC - 700AD) First level (P2-4)

60 minutes

Max 30 pupils

When did the first people come to Shetland? What types of houses did they live in? What items would you find inside their homes? Pupils investigate artefacts from the first settlers in Shetland through to the Pictish period, handle replica and original artefacts. Following the tour pupils will design and make their own clay Pictish disc

The Vikings; Daily Life First Level (P2-4)

75 minutes Max 30 pupils

The Vikings are famous for raiding, fighting and stealing, but that's not the full story!

During the tour we'll explore:

- Where did the Vikings come from?
- Why did the Vikings come to Shetland?
- How they fished and farmed
- Burial customs

Pupils will handle replica and original artefacts and will also complete an activity sheet.

The Vikings; Adventurers & Explorers Second Level (P4-6)

60 minutes

Max 30 pupils

This visit looks at the Vikings in Shetland from a different angle.

We'll explore:

- Why the Vikings travelled and explored
- What they changed in Shetland
- What the Shetland Vikings traded.

Pupils will handle replica and original artefacts on the tour and complete an activity sheet.

Crofting and Buttermaking First and second level (P3-7)

90 minutes

Max 30 pupils

Islanders lived and worked on the land for centuries. This visit can be adapted to suit topics from the 1750s – 1950s.

Through a guided tour, activity sheet and buttermaking in teams pupils will explore the following themes:

- What was a township
- Life in the home
- Work on the croft

Please bring some oatcakes or bannocks for sampling the pupil's butter

Carding Option (add 15 minutes)
Pupils will learn about why knitting was so important to crofters and have the opportunity to try carding and spinning.

Shetland during World War Two Second level (P5-7)

90 minutes

Max 30 pupils divided into 2 groups Optional worksheet (add 15 mins)

A gallery tour covering:

- The strategic importance of Shetland and the impact of troops and defences
- Life at home: blackout, air raid, social life
- Prisoners of War
- Pupils will handle photographs, replica & real artefacts
- A workshop covering
- Make Do & Mend was important
- make a peg doll or soldier

An activity sheet is available for after the gallery tour. If you wish this option please allow an extra 15 minutes for your visit

Victorian Life and School Second Level (P5-7)

90 minutes

Max of 30 pupils divided into 2 groups
Pupils will go on a gallery tour to discover
what life was like in Victorian Shetland in
the countryside and in a middle class
Lerwick house. They will also be taken
back in time to our Victorian classroom
and through role play they will get to
experience what life was like for Victorian
pupils.

Activities include writing on slate, using dip pens, looking at original logbooks, learning through rote.

Our staff will be in Victorian costume and classes are welcome to come in costume too. Pupils will be "renamed" for the visit with names common in Victorian Shetland



Buttermaking workshop

Fishing, Whaling and Merchant Navy

We can develop a visit to meet your needs but need one month notice. Please phone to discuss.

The fishing industry has been important to Shetland communities for centuries.

Schools study a range of different fisheries; depending on their geographical location, local history and the topic being studied e.g. Explorers topic may cover Merchant Navy and whaling.

We are able to offer tours on combinations of the following;

- Haaf Fishing (1720s 1890s)
- Home / Subsistence fishing (900 -1930s)
- Fishing and the growth of Lerwick
- Herring fishing (1840s present)
- White fishing (1820s present)
- Greenland/ Arctic whaling (1820s-1890s)
- Antartic Whaling (1920s -1960s)
- Merchant Navy (1840s -1950s)

We are also able to offer a whaling artefacts handling session, which takes 20 minutes.



Whale eardrums brought home by whalers

Highlights Tour

All levels

60 minutes Max 30 pupils

Cover 600 years of Shetland's history in one hour! From the first islanders, to Picts, Crofters and Fishermen this tour gives an overview of changing life in Shetland. The tour can be followed by activity sheets and scavenger hunts.

Discover the ArchivesFirst and second level (P4-7)

90 minutes

Max 30 pupils divided into 2 groups Pupils will be split into two groups to complete the following activities:

- A visit to the archives search room
- Examine what the archives have from your area
- A behind the scenes visit to the depository
- Discover Shetland's oldest document

Papermaking workshop

- Discover what different types of paper are made from
- Have a go at making your own paper
- Try writing with dip pens



Outreach visits to your class

We've developed a number of visits that we can deliver out in your classroom. Please contact us as early as possible to arrange a date, as we have limited availability.

Shetlanders and World War One Suitable for Level 2 (P5-7)

45 minutes

Max 30 pupils

Working in groups pupils will investigate archival sources artefacts and replicas to discover the role of Shetlanders in WW1 including:

- The Shetland Territorials at the Battle of Ancre
- Lena Mouat and the WRNS
- John Williamson and the RNR
- Thomas Johnston and the Battle of Jutland
- Queen Mary's Needlework Guild

Artefacts as Historical Evidence

Suitable for S1-S3 Duration: 1 period Max 30 pupils

Session Plan

- Presentation & discussion on the role of Shetland Museum and Archives
- Example of Primary and Secondary Evidence
- Groups work investigating an artefact
- Presentation of discoveries back to classmates



Learning about a local lad's WW1 experience

The Terriers and the trenches

Suitable for S1-S3 Duration: 1 period Maximum 30 pupils

Listen to letter and diary extracts from a Shetland boy who didn't return, then working in groups, pupils will investigate the archival material and artefacts.

