

London Fire Brigade Museum Teachers' Pack

Pack Includes:

- ◆ The London Fire Brigade Museum Introduction
- ◆ Storytelling Sessions
- ◆ The Great Fire of London Tour
- ◆ The Museum Shop
- ◆ Further Information

Please do not hesitate to ask for any additional information about fire safety during your visit.

Introduction

The London Fire Brigade has had a museum since the 1960s and is currently located at Winchester House, once residence of the Brigade's first chief officer Captain Massey Shaw. The museum traces the history of organised firefighting in London from 1666, providing a view of the social history of London from Victorian times, through two world wars up to the present day. Also on display are several old fire engines housed in a Victorian fire station.

The museum is suitable for both primary and secondary school children with three different types of sessions designed for educational groups; The Great Fire of London, the Second World War and storytelling sessions. However a more general tour emphasising the continuity and development of the London Fire Brigade is also available for older students.

Liaison between the school and the museum is recommended before a visit to enable the curators to tailor to the specific needs of the group.



Storytelling Sessions

Duration: 1.5 hours. The sessions take place on a Tuesday at either 10.30am or 12.30pm, with a **prompt start**. Only certain dates are available, please ask when booking.

Cost: £50.00 (exc. VAT) per class, max. 30 students

Cancellations: The cost of the session is non-refundable within a month of your visit.

Each group will hear the **Storytelling** session and see the museum's **Appliance Bay**.

Storytelling

The London Fire Brigade Museum in partnership with the Museum of London offers storytelling sessions drawing on the events of the 1666 Great Fire of London. Professional storytellers will reveal the exciting story of the Great Fire of London in 1666. Using interactive, dynamic and fun techniques, children will hear the story of the fire, how it started and the events as they unfold. Children will be involved in the story bringing the people, places and history to life.

Appliance Bay

The Appliance Bay houses seven historic fire engines. One of our curators will talk about the fire engines and pumps, which date from 1750 to 1980. The children will be told how the fire engines work and how they have developed over 200 years, they will also be encouraged to participate in discussions about the fire engines.

This is followed by the opportunity for the children to try on uniforms ranging from those worn by the insurance brigades after the Great Fire of London to the uniform worn by today's London firefighters.

Please note

Due to the age of the equipment we do not allow children to touch or climb on any of the fire engines. Please discuss this with your class before you arrive at the museum.



Great Fire of London Tour

Duration: 1.5 hours

Cost: £30.00 (exc. VAT) per class, max. 30 students

Cancellations: The cost of the session is non-refundable within a month of your visit.

The class will take part in the **Great Fire of London** session, **Fire Prevention** safety talk and will see the museum **Appliance Bay**.

Great Fire of London

This session focuses on KS1 students. One of the curators will take the children to the main part of the museum to look at the causes and effects of the Great Fire of London. This supplements what the children have learnt about the topic in class and they are encouraged to participate in discussions. Primary sources are used to highlight the chronology of events with specific reference to equipment used to tackle the fire.

The consequences of the Great Fire are explained with reference to the introduction of the Parish Pump Act of 1708, whereby every Parish had to have a manual pump for fighting fires, and the establishment of the fire insurance companies.

Fire Prevention

The group will then move to the Fire Prevention room, where we will discuss the work of the Brigade today and how the children can prevent fires from occurring in their own homes. Important issues are considered regarding planning escape routes, having a smoke alarm, when to telephone the fire brigade and the dangers of making hoax calls.

Appliance Bay

The Appliance Bay houses seven historic fire engines. One of our curators will talk about the fire engines and pumps, which date from 1750 to 1980. The children will be told how the engines work and how they have developed over 200 years, and will be encouraged to participate in discussions about the fire engines.

This is followed by the opportunity for the children to try on uniforms ranging from those worn by the insurance brigades after the Great Fire of London to the uniform worn by today's London firefighters.

Please note

Due to the age of the fire engines we do not allow children to touch or climb on any of them. Please discuss this with your class before you arrive at the museum.

General Tour of the Museum

Duration: 1 – 1.5 hours

Cost: £30.00 (exc. VAT) per class, max. 30 students

Cancellations: The cost of the session is non-refundable within a month of your visit.

This tour is suitable for pupils studying at KS3 level and for students studying Public Service related courses. It includes **all the areas in the main museum building** as well as the **Appliance Bay**.

Great Fire of London

The tour begins with the Great Fire of London and the consequences of the event. The beginnings of organised firefighting with the establishment of insurance brigades to protect property are considered along with other organisations that aimed to prevent loss of life from fires. The section concludes with the creation of the London Fire Engine Establishment, the first fire brigade in London.

Victorian Firefighters

The next section covers two rooms in the museum. The first examines the role of Captain Massy Shaw, chief officer of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade and the changes he made within the Brigade including a new uniform with the iconic brass helmet.

The second room explores the working and living conditions of firefighters during this period and the challenges they faced.

Pre-war

This section covers the years from 1904 to 1939 with the use of primary sources including original examples of breathing apparatus. Primary sources illustrate the change from using horses to motorised vehicles to move fire engines. Important fires such as the burning of Crystal Palace are also discussed.

Second World War

Volunteer firefighters, and for the first time women, joined the London Fire Brigade during the Second World War. Primary sources portray their experiences and roles in the context of the Blitz period. The role of messengers is specifically focused upon as messengers were just 16 when they joined the fire service.

Post-war

This section covers two rooms in the museum. The first outlines major incidents and new equipment and methods used as a result. It also shows the origins of the London Fire Brigade badge, as well as the geographical area now covered by the Brigade.

The next room outlines Cold War planning changes in breathing apparatus, chemical safety (HAZCHEM code) and particular incidents, such as the King's Cross fire, which resulted in the introduction of the first fire-proof uniform.

Fire Prevention

The final section is about the role of the London Fire Brigade today in preventing fires. We discuss how the students can prevent fires from happening in their own homes. Important issues are considered including planning escape routes, smoke alarms, when to telephone the fire brigade and the dangers of making hoax calls.

Appliance Bay

The Appliance Bay houses seven historic fire engines. One of our curators will talk about the fire engines and pumps, which date from 1750 to 1980. The students will be told how the engines work and how they have developed over 200 years, and will be encouraged to participate in discussions about the fire engines.

This is followed by the opportunity for the students to look at uniforms ranging from those worn by the insurance brigades after the Great Fire of London to the uniform worn by today's London firefighters.

Please note

Due to the age of the equipment we do not allow students or pupils to touch or climb on any of the fire engines. Please discuss this with your class before you arrive at the museum.

Museum Shop

These are just a few of the items that can be bought from the shop at the end of your tour. Please notify the museum if you wish to include a visit to the shop.

Pencils	£0.50
Erasers	£0.70
Museum Pens	£1.00
Teddy Bear	£3.00
Bookmarks	£1.50
Postcards	£0.50
Pencil Case	£2.50
Activity Packs	£1.99
Magnets	£1.50
Colouring Pencils	£1.50
Rulers	£1.20
Fire Engine Puzzle Postcard	£1.99
London Fire Brigade Crest Pin Badge	£1.50
Mousemats	£3.50



Alternatively, the museum is happy to pre-arrange souvenir bags which can be collected by the teacher at the end of the visit. We offer any combination of the items above i.e. for a class of 30 pupils; 30 x pencils 30 x bookmarks at a cost of £2.00 per child. The total amount can be paid by the teacher on the day or can be invoiced to the school, if preferred.



Further Information

London Fire Brigade Museum
94a Southwark Bridge Road
London SE1 0EG
T: 0208 555 1200 Ext. 39894
E: museum@london-fire.gov.uk

Times

School visits must be booked in advance and tours start at 10.30am and 1.00pm. The storytelling sessions are at 10.30am and 12.30pm. We aim for a prompt start for all sessions. The duration of a visit is usually an hour and a half and the maximum number of children the museum can accommodate for a session is 30.

Facilities

The museum has an indoor lunch room on site that can accommodate a maximum of 40 students but there is a public park opposite the museum for picnics, weather permitting.

The Appliance Bay is fully accessible to wheelchair users. However, there are two flights of stairs leading into the main building of the museum.

Directions to the LFB Museum

By Train: The nearest British Rail station **London Bridge**. Take main exit from the station (opposite terminal platforms) and walk away from the station via London Bridge Street or Railway Approach until you meet **Borough High Street**. Cross Borough High Street and turn left (away from the bridge). Follow the road as it forks to the right, you will now be in **Southwark Street**. Follow Southwark Street until the junction with **Southwark Bridge Road**. Turn left down Southwark Bridge Road. You will find **Southwark Training Centre**, where the museum is located, after approximately 250m on the right-hand side of the road. Follow signs to **reception**.

Other nearby British Rail stations are **Waterloo/Waterloo East** and **Cannon Street**.

By Tube: The nearest tube is **Borough** (Northern line). Turn left out of the exit and immediately left again (following the outside wall of the station) into **Marshalsea Road**. Follow Marshalsea Road to its end which takes you into

Southwark Bridge Road. Turn left and almost immediately you will see **Southwark Training Centre**, where the Museum is located, on the other side of the road. Follow signs to **reception**.

Other nearby tube stations are **London Bridge** (Northern line) and **Elephant and Castle** (Bakerloo line),

By Bus: The **344** runs between Clapham Junction and Liverpool Street (via Vauxhall, the Imperial War Museum and Elephant and Castle) and stops right outside. Ask the driver for Southwark Fire Station.

