**Inspiring the Future**

Leicester Cathedral’s visitor programme for Primary and Secondary Schools

Leicester Cathedral is a sacred place at the physical heart of our city and county. While the earliest mention of it is some 900 years ago, it is built on the site of a Roman temple and has been at the centre of public and religious life here for centuries.

Visitors from all around the world come to the Cathedral to visit the tomb of King Richard III, and many comment on the special welcoming atmosphere and sense of spirituality and history that they find. People gather here in joy and in sorrow, for worship, celebration, music, arts events and debate.

We welcome visitors and learners of all faiths and none, all ages, cultures and backgrounds, to experience what Leicester Cathedral has to offer.

We use different pedagogical approaches to encourage learners to explore and grow in understanding of this ancient and vibrant Cathedral church. Presentations and activities are adapted to suit the ages of students. Our experienced team has devised programmes both matched into and attuned to the needs of both Leicestershire County’s and Leicester City’s current Agreed Syllabus.

Leicester Cathedral is a busy place, so we advise you to book your visit with as much notice as possible.

**Booking information**

School visits are possible between 9.30am and 3.00pm, and are bookable for Tuesdays and Thursdays.

While the Cathedral building is closed for renovations until autumn 2023, these will take place at St Mary de Castro, an ancient church dating from 1107.

Visits to the King Richard II Visitor Centre can be booked via the Visitor Centre at kriii.com.

The mediaeval Guildhall and other museums are also within easy walking distance.

For solely Cathedral visits and activities, and any enquiries, please email us at CathedralBookings@LeicesterCofE.org and please include your name and phone number.
Programmes

Faith, worship and belief
KS1, 2 & 3
An opportunity through experiencing the building, with all its rich imagery and tradition of prayer, to explore what Christians believe and how they express their faith. Topics covered include: Christian symbols, prayer, the importance of the Bible, stories and Christian images in Art.
1 hour tour for any four at a cost of £2 per pupil / 2 hours for all five which includes more interactive activities at a cost of £3.50 per pupil

Advent to Christmas
KS1, 2 & 3
A thorough exploration of the meaning to Christians of the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, through story, symbols and music, and the building itself. This is perfect for the autumn term and could easily be combined with elements of the Faith, worship and belief modules.
2 hours for an interactive session
Cost £2 per pupil

Experiencing Easter
KS1, 2 & 3
An interactive exploration of Holy Week, walking the journey from Palm Sunday to the joyful celebration on Easter Sunday. Perfect for the Spring Term.
2 hour interactive workshop
Cost £2 per pupil

Godly Play
KS1 & 2
Godly play is an imaginative and interactive approach to spiritual nurture through story, wondering and play. A trained member of the Cathedral team would join your class for a session by Zoom or Teams. Please contact the Cathedral if you would like more detailed information.
Bookable by lesson at a cost of £40

Big Questions
KS3, 4 & 5
This is an opportunity for a class to engage with a trained minister or priest on some of the most difficult or thorny faith related issues. The Cathedral team are willing to put themselves in the ‘hot seat’ either to discuss a particular topic, or to explore a few random questions. Some suggestions might be what happens when we die, why does God allow suffering, is the Bible true and what is Jesus’ role in Christianity. But we are open to ideas and can mail you a longer list if you like.
Bookable by lesson – a member of the Cathedral team would join your lesson in person or on Zoom/Teams depending on practicalities
Cost £40

Pilgrimage
Upper KS2
An opportunity to reflect. Pupils are guided on a walk from Watermead Park to the Cathedral, stopping along the way to look back on their lives and forward to future challenges. The walk ends with a time of sharing and celebration at the Cathedral.
4 hours
Cost £60

The Future
The Cathedral is temporarily closed for renovation works, and we are temporarily operating out of St Nicholas’ Church, next to the Jewry Wall Museum. St Nicholas’ Church – a gem – is much older than the Cathedral, dating from Anglo-Saxon times and is one of the first stone churches in the country.

Our exciting building project, Leicester Cathedral Revealed, when finished in autumn 2023 will among other things enable full accessibility and provide a proper classroom space for us to welcome you.

Much of what we offer will continue without much change, based in the ancient church of St Mary de Castro on Castle Street.

We have exciting plans for a bigger and more diverse schools’ offer around both the History and RE curricula, which we shall gradually develop. Please mail us if you would like to keep in touch over these, and do keep an eye on our website and social media.

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Ashby Secondary School

“The staff were so helpful and enthusiastic.”
Glenfield Primary School

“The children loved the experience and are keen to carry out follow-up work in school…”. 
Cranston Kenilworth Primary School

“Our visit has provided a wonderful springboard for our learning this term around Christianity….”
Rowatts Hill Primary School

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