

Primary School and Nursery Programme 2024–25

*“The best
educational visit
I have made to
any museum in
Scotland.”*

P7 teacher, Edinburgh

Explore our
schools offer



Bookings open 19 Aug



National
Museums
Scotland

Ignite curiosity, foster critical thinking, and enrich your learning and teaching with the help of our incredible collections.

Science and technology, the natural world, sustainability, art and design, world cultures and Scottish history – we cover it all at our four national museums across Scotland, and online.

Our sessions are road-tested by teachers, delivered by our learning team and align with the Curriculum for Excellence, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Meta-skills framework.

- **National Museum of Scotland Edinburgh** p3–4
- **National Museum of Flight East Lothian** p5
- **National Museum of Rural Life East Kilbride** p6
- **National War Museum Edinburgh** p7

Free online workshops and resources

Digital schools sessions

Bring the museum to your classroom with our live, interactive sessions. Led by our expert Learning team, these 30 min sessions bring ever-popular topics, including the Second World War, ancient Egypt, dinosaurs, the Romans, and the Vikings, directly to your pupils. Fridays during term time at 11:30. **Free** booking required.

nms.ac.uk/digitalschools

Online resources

We offer a range of resources to enhance learning and teaching before, during and after your visit. Find a selection of free trail sheets, films and worksheets online.

nms.ac.uk/resources



National Museum of Scotland

Chambers Street
Edinburgh EH1 1JF
0131 247 4041
schools@nms.ac.uk

Discover the history of Scotland, the wonders of nature and diverse cultures, scientific breakthroughs and exquisite art, design and fashion all under one roof.

Workshops run throughout the year, repeating every term on **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday** at **10:15 & 11:45**. Booking gives priority access to the cloakroom and lunch space. Please visit our website for full details, workshop dates, and to request your visit.

Workshop & tour prices
£100 UK local authority schools
£150 Independent schools and non-UK schools
Free 20% of these sessions are available free of charge to schools in SIMD 1&2 areas and all special schools (Scotland only). Offer is subject to availability.

Early Years

Wee Explorers

NEW

Early level (Nursery–P1), 60 mins
A perfect introduction to the museum. Discover our collections through songs, stories and hands-on activities.

Maximum capacity 25 children
For dates visit nms.ac.uk/weeexplorers



STEM

Mini Engineers

Early & first level (Nursery–P2), 60 mins
Pupils become engineers to help fix the museum's broken clock. Learning through play, they explore pushes, cogs and gears, and discover new vocabulary using our word wall. ASN version available.

Maximum capacity 25 children
For dates visit nms.ac.uk/miniengineers

A Dinosaur Adventure

NEW

Early & first level (P1–P3), 60 mins
Come dinosaur hunting with us. This immersive workshop uses objects, movement and role-play to learn about these fascinating creatures. ASN and Nursery versions available.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/dinoadventure

Museum on the Move

FREE

First & second level (P3–P7), 60 mins
In this hands-on session, pupils help us plan to move one of our display objects. Working together they solve a series of maths-related problems, culminating in a removal truck coding challenge.

In partnership with Maths Week Scotland
For dates visit nms.ac.uk/scotlandonthemove

Animal Adaptations

Second level (P5–P7), 60 mins
Investigate how animals adapt to their environments and apply the scientific method in our bird beak experiment.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/animaladaptations

Energy & Sustainability

Second level (P5–P7), 60 mins
In this hands-on workshop, pupils consider where energy comes from, build a wind turbine and discuss current issues around climate change.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/energyworkshop

Social Studies

An Egyptian Adventure

Early & first level (P1–P2), 60 mins

Using story, movement and drama, go on an adventure to the coronation of a new pharaoh. Exploring objects from the marketplace, temple and River Nile, learn about daily life in ancient Egypt. ASN version available.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/egyptianadventure

Egypt Explorer

NEW

First & second level (P3–P5), 75 mins

How and why were Egyptian objects brought to the museum in Scotland? Look beyond the pharaohs and pyramids and learn more about the history of ancient Egypt.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/egyptexplorer



Roman Explorer

First & second level (P3–P5), 75 mins

Go on a tour of our *Early People* gallery to discover Roman objects and investigate the stories they reveal about domestic and military life.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/romanexplorer

Viking Explorer

First & second level (P3–P5), 75 mins

In our *Early People* gallery, become archaeologists and investigate evidence from a real Viking burial.

Please note pupils will look at real skeletons and Viking graves as part of this workshop.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/vikingexplorer

Study Day

Museum Stories: Ancient Egypt

First & second level (P4–P7), 60 min auditorium show plus 45 min handling session

Delve deeper into our ancient Egyptian collections and meet the staff working behind the scenes. Challenge curators to a quiz, get hands on with real and replica objects, and visit our *Ancient Egypt Rediscovered* gallery.

£5 per pupil, adults free

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/museumstories

Tours

NEW

First level to senior phase, 60 mins

Explore our galleries with a guided session, led by our Learning team.

Museum Explorer

A highlights tour perfect for first time visits.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/museumexplorer

Scotland Explorer

Delve deeper into Scottish history and see some of our most precious objects.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/scotlandexplorer



Self-led tour

FREE

Explore your own choice of topic with a free visit. Download resources and trails to support your trip, where available. You can also request a cloakroom and lunch space, subject to availability.

nms.ac.uk/scotlandselfled

National Museum of Flight

East Fortune Airfield
East Lothian EH39 5LF
0131 247 4238
schoolsnmof@nms.ac.uk

Explore the history of aviation from the First World War to the present day at this former airfield. Here pupils can find out more about the World Wars, science and technology.

Workshops run on set dates throughout the year, repeating every term on **Wednesday & Thursday at 10:30 & 11:45**. Booking gives priority access to the cloakroom and lunch space. Please visit our website for full details, workshop dates, and to request your visit.

Workshop & tour prices

£100 UK local authority schools

£150 Independent schools and non-UK schools

Free 20% of these sessions are available free of charge to schools in SIMD 1&2 areas and all special schools (Scotland only). Free coach travel is also available to support these visits. Offer is subject to availability.

Early Years

Transport

Early Level (P1–P2), 60 mins

Learn about things that fly through interactive activities, including movement, song, trying on real flying clothing, and exploring the museum to uncover the stories behind our aircraft.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/transport

STEM

Museum on the Move

FREE

First & second level (P3–P7), 60 mins

In this hands-on session, pupils will help us create a plan to move Concorde into a new hangar. Working together they solve a series of maths-related problems, culminating in a removal truck coding challenge.

In partnership with Maths Week Scotland

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/flightonthemove

Fantastic Flying Forces

Second level (P5–P7), 60 mins

Conduct experiments to learn more about the forces involved in flight and discover how aeroplanes fly. Then continue the learning in the rest of the museum, including a visit to our interactive gallery, *Fantastic Flight*.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/flyingforces

Social Studies

Second World War Scotland

NEW

Second level (P5–P7), 60 mins

What was life like at RAF East Fortune in wartime? Meet our costumed interpreter, investigate real objects to discover the human stories behind them, then take part in our escape challenge.

For dates visit

nms.ac.uk/secondworldwarscotland



Free visits

A visit to the museum can be used to explore a wide range of topics. Booking a self-led visit provides you with:

- Free entry to the museum
- Links to a range of downloadable resources
- Access to a cloakroom and lunch space, subject to availability.

For more information visit nms.ac.uk/flightselfled

National Museum of Rural Life

Wester Kittochside
East Kilbride G76 9HR
0131 247 4377
schoolsnmorl@nms.ac.uk

Experience life in the countryside and explore learning for sustainability at our museum, farmhouse and historic working farm.

Workshops run on set dates throughout the year, repeating every term on **Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday** at **10:30 & 11:45**. Booking gives priority access to the cloakroom and lunch space. Please visit our website for full details, workshop dates, and to request your visit.

Workshop & tour prices
£100 UK local authority schools
£150 Independent schools and non-UK schools
Free 20% of these sessions are available free of charge to schools in SIMD 1&2 areas and all special schools (Scotland only). Offer is subject to availability.

Sustainability

Butter Making

Early, first & second level (P1–P7), 60 mins
In this fun, hands-on workshop pupils discover where milk, cream and butter come from, then churn and taste their own butter. They will also visit our working farm and meet the Ayrshire dairy cows that live there.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/butter

Farm to Fork

Early, first & second level (P1–P7), 60 mins
Our interactive workshop and farm visit encourages pupils to think about what's in their food and where it comes from. Pupils will match farmyard animals with the food they produce, investigate the ingredients in popular dishes and complete a food miles challenge.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/farmtofork

Ice Cream Making

Early, first & second level (P1–P7), 60 mins
In this delicious session pupils will learn all about the ice cream making process, then use local ingredients to craft and taste their very own ice cream creations.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/icecream

Social Studies

Second World War: Evacuees

Second level (P5–P7), 75 mins
It's 1939 and your class has just been evacuated to Wester Kittochside Farm. Experience life as an evacuee in the countryside during the Second World War in this immersive session.

For dates visit nms.ac.uk/evacuees



Free visits

Booking a self-led visit provides you with:

- Free entry to the museum and working farm
- Links to a range of downloadable resources
- Access to a cloakroom and lunch space, subject to availability.

For more information visit nms.ac.uk/ruralselfled

National War Museum

Edinburgh Castle
EH1 2NG
0131 247 4041
schools@nms.ac.uk

Learn about the story of Scotland at war, within the walls of Edinburgh Castle.

Workshops run on set **Mondays** throughout the year at **10:30 & 12:30**. Please visit our website for full details, workshop dates, and to request your visit.

Workshop & tour prices
£100 UK local authority schools
£150 Independent schools and non-UK schools
Free 20% of these sessions are available free of charge to schools in SIMD 1&2 areas and all special schools (Scotland only). Offer is subject to availability.

Social Studies

Second World War Explorer

NEW

Second level (P5–P7), 75 mins
Join members of our Learning team to investigate the lives of people who lived through the war, including an evacuee and a prisoner of war, revealed through the objects they left behind. Then discover the wider story of Scotland at war in the museum galleries.

Bookings include entry to Edinburgh Castle
For dates visit nms.ac.uk/worldwarexplorer



Don't miss



Game On

29 Jun–3 Nov 2024
Play more than 100 iconic games produced over the last 50 years in the world's largest interactive exhibition about the history and culture of video games.

Exhibition curated and organised by the Barbican Centre
£3 per pupil, booking required
nms.ac.uk/gameon

Maths Week Scotland

23–29 September 2024
Don't miss a range of fun-filled and inspiring maths activities taking place at our museums and at venues across Scotland. This year's theme is 'Maths Tales'.

Find out more at mathsweek.scot

Schools news

Sign up to our regular news to keep up to date with our schools activities throughout the year.

nms.ac.uk/schoolssignup

