

CASE STUDY Sandford Award Criteria 3

The programme has been developed through consultation with educational customers and advisers

Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre, Leicestershire



Set in the heart of England near Sutton Cheney, the Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre (the Centre) sits on high ground in the gentle rolling countryside of South Leicestershire. In 1973 Leicestershire County Council chose Ambion Hill Farm to be the location for England's first battlefield interpretation centre. The Centre commemorates and tells the story of this area; in particular the events leading up to the battle of 22 August 1485 and what took place that day in the surrounding fields. From recent research and surveys explained at the Centre, the site of the battle is believed to have been fought about one kilometre from Ambion Hill.

Sandford Award Judge's Comments

Formal learning: Engagement with Stakeholders

'The programmes are developed and evaluated by a wide range of external educators and heritage experts. Feedback from users and stakeholders is actively sought and systematically combed and applied as a part of the Centre's continuous improvement processes. Schools, for example, complete evaluation forms and, with the guides and facilitators, teachers are invited to meetings to discuss their feedback and ideas. From this consultative and evaluation process changes are routinely brought about. Schools are invited to pilot new sessions for free, to help the Centre develop fresh content and approaches, and to implement management controls and delivery of sessions.'

'To ensure the continuing success of the programmes, success measures are regularly taken. These are made against trends in uptake and the programmes' relevance to the schools' curricula, the practical requirements of visitors, financial viability, the achievement of learning objectives and outcomes, and the quality of programme delivery. This is approached through consultation with a number of stakeholders including Leicestershire's Heritage Development Manager who is an expert on the Battle of Bosworth and Roman history, the Business Development Manager, the group of guides and facilitators at the Centre, marketing staff and a group of external educators who attend to discuss and advise the Centre with regard to audience and curriculum needs. Some of these educators sit on the Centre's Heritage Learning Panel.'

Family learning: Engagement with Stakeholders

'Looking in several rooms on the ground floor for the Victorian version of items we have in our homes today - telephone, clock, iron etc. For most school groups this would normally involve using a picture sheet of clues but one of the Volunteers had thoughtfully put these images on to an iPad so that all the children could see them more clearly. The children were allowed to sit on the chairs and handle many of the artefacts, which they enjoyed, but by now the children were getting very tired and the session was foreshortened so that they could take a break for lunch in the Old Kitchen, the room reserved for the use of schools for this purpose.'

Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre and the 1620s House & Garden Teacher Advisory Group Information Heritage Learning Panel

Calling all teachers and educators!

Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre and the 1620s House & Garden are setting up a Teacher Advisory Group to help develop their education programmes. We are looking for a small group of teachers based in the East and West Midlands to sign up to the panel for at least one year and take part in an exciting programme of events, meetings and tours. This opportunity is open to educators of any age group and at all career stages from a broad range of subjects, schools and education services.

Aims and Responsibilities

- Attend three 90-minute meetings per academic year at Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre and at the 1620s House & Garden.
- Pilot, review and evaluate museum resources, education sessions and marketing material.
- Actively participate in informal discussions about the curriculum and best practices in museum education.
- Make recommendations for new education sessions, classroom learning resources and visiting procedures.
- Help promote the education programmes within your educational institution.

Benefits

- Insider peeks of new learning sessions, resources and materials
- Take part in pilot education sessions for FREE
- Insight into museum education practices
- Networking opportunities with other educators and museum professionals
- Opportunities to influence the future of our education offer at two unique historical sites
- Behind the scenes tours and free entry to some events/activities
- Reimbursement for travel expenses
- Complimentary refreshments

https://www.bosworthbattlefield.org.uk/learning/heritage-learning-panel/

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