

Great Exhibition of the North School Visit Information Sheet

In this information sheet you will find:

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On the Day

Please arrive to the drop off point listed on your itinerary- it will be one of these six locations, depending on the visit booked.

- Sage Gateshead, *St Mary's Square, Gateshead Quays, Gateshead NE8 2JR*
- Northern Design Centre, *Abbott's Hill, Gateshead NE8 3DF*
- Great North Museum, *Barras Bridge, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4PT*
- Theatre Royal, *100 Grey St, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 6BR*
- Discovery Museum, *Blandford Square, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4JA*
- NBS, *The Old Post Office, St Nicholas' St, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1RH*

If you are going to be late to your arrival point, please call us on **0191 440 5766** or **07894 238684** to let us know.

When you arrive you will be greeted by one of our School Visit Facilitators who will welcome you to the Great Exhibition and give you printed copies of:

- Your itinerary for the day.
- A Teacher Guide for the Trail you are attending including what you will see, and practical information and suggested questions to ask your students.
- A Great Exhibition of the North programme for the whole programme
- Children's activity sheets enough for 1 per child.

The teacher guide has been written to enable you as the teacher to guide your students around the Exhibition.

Get North Volunteers have signed up to support the Exhibition spread across the city. In addition to this, **subject to availability**, we hope to have volunteers accompany full day trails (City, Quayside, Innovation). Please ensure you have read all of the information in the teacher guide and completed a pre-visit trip where possible so that you are adequately prepared to lead your group around the Exhibition in the event that a volunteer is not available to accompany you.

If you have any questions at any time during your visit that cannot be answered by your teacher guide, venue staff or volunteers, please call the schools team on 0191 440 5766 or 07894 238684.

When you arrive at your final venue you will meet another Great Exhibition of the North Schools Facilitator who will ensure you get on your way safely.

Cancelling your booking

If you need to cancel your visit to the Great Exhibition for any reason, please let us know as soon as you are able:

- If it is more than a day in advance please email schools@getnorth2018.com
- If it is less than 24 hours, please call 0191 440 5766 or 07894 238684

Due to the short timescale of the Great Exhibition, we will not be able to reschedule any cancelled visits.

What should we bring?

Please encourage your children to travel light as there is no storage available in any venues.

We would recommend for students to bring:

- A packed lunch and plenty to drink throughout the day
- Appropriate clothing including:
 - sensible walking shoes
 - waterproof clothing
 - suncream / hat
- Pencil/ pen
- Colouring pencils (especially if visiting BALTIC)
- Clipboard (especially if visiting BALTIC)
- Mobile phone or camera if appropriate
- Small amount of money if you would like to plan in time to one of the shops at BALTIC, Discovery Museum, Great North Museum or Sage Gateshead.

*We expect the Great Exhibition of the North venues to be **very busy**, you may want to bring **Hi-Vis jackets** or **request school uniform** so you are able to easily identify your students at all times.*

Accessibility

Any access requirements you have advised us of have been passed to the venues you are visiting. If you have anything that you have not already advised us of, please email us at schools@getnorth2018.com as soon as possible.

If you have students **sensitive to sound, or who you wish to prepare-** each day at 1pm there will be a steam engine whistle that echoes around the city that you may hear if you are outside at this time- <https://getnorth2018.com/events/whistle/>

Volunteer Role

Get North volunteers will be a team of up to 1,000 volunteers who will provide a warm welcome to an audience of 3 million visitors across NewcastleGateshead, and bring to life the themes of the exhibition.

Volunteers will be in branded uniform (blue t-shirt/hoodies) with a volunteer pass.

In addition to this, **subject to availability**, we hope to have volunteers accompany full day trails (City, Quayside, Innovation) to support navigation and timekeeping.

Please note they are not staff members or tour guides and you will be expected to lead children in activities and learning. Whilst our volunteers have had inductions for the Great Exhibition, it is not a requirement for our volunteers to have DBS clearance, therefore you remain responsible for your children at all times and should ensure you have enough staff at all times with you to accompany your group subject to your school's policy.

Timings

The Great Exhibition of the North is heavily subscribed for school visits therefore there is a clear requirement for groups to commit to the scheduled timings of your visit on your scheduled day.

Late arrivals and not keeping to schedule at any venue or location will mean reduced time in this venue or missing the next location in your trail in order to keep to your scheduled times.

Please see the timings for your day on your email and itinerary, you will be required to maintain both the start **and** finish times. This is a walking trail, deviation from suggested timings will impact on other groups.

GetNorth2018 App

The GetNorth2018 App can be downloaded from both Apple Store and Google Play from Friday 15th June. There are more details about it here: <https://getnorth2018.com/visit/getting-around/>

There is no obligation to have this for your visit, but it will allow you to access information about the whole exhibition and have gamification within venues. We realise a lot of children will not have smartphone access but it may enhance their experience if they are able to and your school is comfortable with this.

Parking

We do not have any parking available to be booked, if you are travelling by minibus, you will need to make your own arrangements. Information about getting around NewcastleGateshead including car parks can be found here:

<https://www.newcastlegateshead.com/plan-your-visit/travel/getting-around-newcastle-gateshead>

Adult: Child ratio

The number of adults for a group depends on the group. For Early Years groups, we recommend an adult:child ratio of around 1:4. At KS1 and KS2 we would recommend 1:6. For KS3 upwards, we would recommend a 1:15 staffing level. Your knowledge of your own pupils will obviously help to inform the levels of staffing required.

Please note that whatever the age of the school party, you are responsible for the behaviour of the group at all times.