

Learning at York Mansion House

The social and civic heart of York
since 1732





Welcome

York Mansion House has been at the centre of York life for almost 300 years. A hugely influential architectural gem, it proudly stands in St Helen's Square as the oldest purpose built home for a Lord Mayor in the country.

As it has since 1732, the house plays host to some of the most significant events in the life of the city – and of individuals – and following a period of restoration, now welcomes visitors from across the globe.

This incredible space is now available for you and your students to discover, whether you are coming from York or further afield. An iconic symbol of civic democracy, the Mansion House represents almost 800 years of the Mayoralty in York, making it the ideal place to explore the history of the city, local governance, and 18th century life.



“The future is yours. Make it worthy of the great traditions of the past.

Preserve your heritage and add to the glories of this magic city.”

Edna Annie Crichton, first female Lord Mayor, 1941/42

Supporting Your Curriculum

With a unique programme covering KS1 to KS4, we want to support you in bringing your curriculum to life.

Our innovative and engaging workshops are designed to connect easily with English, History, Citizenship, Drama, and even Art and Design, so there is plenty to discover no matter the focus.



Local Governance

Debating

With the ability to be tailored to local or national government, this workshop will take students through a Chamber-style debate. In groups, a selected topic will be tackled, concluding with a vote for or against the proposal. Will the ayes or the noes have it?

Democracy and Decision Making

A number of activities will bring the democratic process to life, and challenge students to take control of the decision making process. The session will be brought to life as students are asked to run their own city, understanding the consequences of their actions as a Local Government.

**Suitable for: KS3/4 Citizenship //
KS2/3/4 English // KS1/2/3
History**

History of York

A Timeline of York

Completely interactive and creatively challenging, this workshop invites students to become part of the history of York. Designed to bring history to life, each student will characterise a different period, before testing their chronology skills to discover more about the period they are representing.

Power and Prestige

This workshop explores the world of the Lord Mayors of York. From discovering diary entries and civic obligations, to examining the changing representations of power over time, these activities will walk students through York's extraordinary history in the shoes of those at the front lines of influence.

**Suitable for: KS2 English // KS1/2/3 History
// KS2 Drama // KS2/3 Art and Design**



18th Century Life

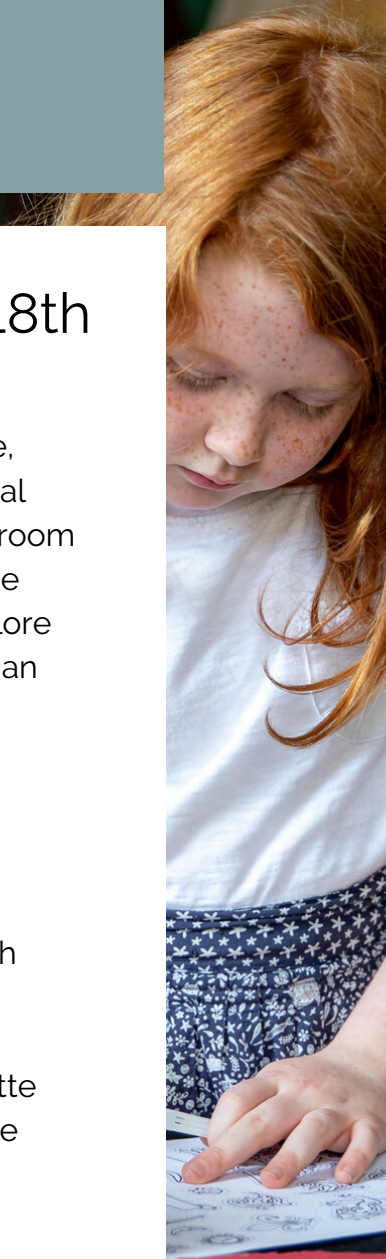
Food and Etiquette in the 18th Century

Across the four floors of this remarkable house, students will be given a sneak peek into the real lives of the inhabitants of 300 years ago. Each room will see a different activity undertaken, from the elegant Dining Room, where students will explore 18th century etiquette, to the recreated Georgian kitchen, where delicious recipe making awaits.

18th Century Health and Hygiene

Designed to transport students back to the 18th century, this series of activities will challenge thinking around the luxuries of modern life. As discussions range from cleanliness and etiquette to clothing, students will move round the house to have a go at making their own soap, and discover the sights and smells of a Georgian house.

Suitable for: KS2/3 History



Working Together

We believe the Mansion House should be available to all, and the vast history contained within it shared to open up new experiences and support education across all ages.

As well as our standard offer, we want to work with you to learn how we can help to support the curriculum for your students and bring the content to life. If there is something specific you'd like to cover, or have ideas for new events, activities or programmes, we'd be happy to make them a reality.

Alongside formal education, we can also support:

- SEN Education
- Uniformed Groups
- Home Educators
- Adult Learning



A woman with short, wavy red hair is shown in profile, looking down at the back of a child. The child is wearing a colorful, patterned shirt. The background is a blurred wall with a light-colored, possibly stone or brick, texture. The overall scene is intimate and focused on the interaction between the woman and the child.

Accessibility

York Mansion House is equipped with lift access and ramps throughout, and has been restored with wheelchair users in mind.

We strive to ensure everyone receives the welcome they need, and can work with you ahead of your arrival to provide any additional information that may be required for a smooth visit for you and your group.

If an audio guide is required for any part of your visit, we can provide these with written and spoken English, and can provide headphones if needed.

The background of the page is a photograph of a grand, ornate interior. On the left, there is a large, teal-colored door with gold accents and a decorative column. The ceiling is white with gold-colored decorative elements. On the right, there is a chandelier and a fireplace with a marble mantel. The floor is covered in a red carpet with a repeating pattern.

Prices

We welcome enquiries from anyone eager to experience more of the Mansion House, and we can accommodate groups of any size. For school and uniformed groups, we advise the following levels of adult supervision:

KS1/2: 1 adult per six children
KS3/4: 1 adult per ten children
(minimum two adults)

Prices start at £3.50 per child with free accompanying adults within the above ratio.

Please get in touch to discuss any specialist requirements you may have.

An ornate room with green walls, a red patterned carpet, and a white fireplace. The room features a high ceiling with decorative moldings and a large window on the right side. The text is overlaid on a white rectangular background in the center of the image.

Contact Us

For all enquiries and bookings, or to request a detailed breakdown of our workshops, please contact our Education team at yhmlearning@york.gov.uk or call on 01904 553663

We look forward to hearing from you.



York Mansion House, St Helen's Square, York, YO1 9QL

