

Learning Outside the Classroom: A turning point in heritage education

Friday 14 March 2008, Bishopsgate Institute, London

Experienced speakers from government, academia, senior school management and policy development will address some of the big issues surrounding Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC). Also, a series of snapshot case studies on successful and varied LOtC programmes will provide an overview of LOtC in practice.

We will focus on:

- explaining the LOtC Manifesto in the context of broader government policy
- highlighting the role of LOtC in the new curriculum
- giving real examples of the positive impact of LOtC on young people
- providing an update on the LOtC Manifesto and its implementation

You will leave knowing more about the Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto and what it means for your organisation. Through sharing experiences and exploring the possibilities together, we hope you will leave feeling encouraged and inspired.

Who should attend?

- Learning professionals (freelance or employed) from across the heritage sector
- Heritage volunteers with responsibility for or an interest in learning
- Managers or other staff at heritage organisations with responsibility for learning
- Advisers and advocates – who advise on or advocate learning outside the classroom in the heritage sector

Over 800 organisations, schools and local authorities across England have signed the Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto and pledged their support. This conference, organised by the Heritage Sector Partnership in association with GEM and DCSF, will give the sector a comprehensive update on the Manifesto and explore what fully-realised LOtC provision could mean for the heritage sector.

The detailed programme is shown overleaf, and the latest information about this conference (and booking form) can be found on the GEM website: www.gem.org.uk

How to Book

All delegates should complete a booking form and return it – with payment if possible – to

GEM Office, 131 Trafalgar Street, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 4RP.

Tel/Fax: 01634 853424. Email: gemoffice@btinternet.com

Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

PROGRAMME

- 09.30 Registration & refreshments
- 10.00 Welcome & Introduction
Dr John Stevenson, Director, GEM & Chair, LOtC Heritage Sector Partnership
- 10.10 The Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto in the Context of Broader Government Policy
Julie Bramman, Deputy Director, Curriculum Unit, DCSF
- 10.30 Learning Outside the Classroom and The Big Picture Curriculum
David Gardner, Programme Manager, Curriculum Division, QCA
- 10.50 Q&A with Julie Bramman and David Gardner
- 11.00 Break
- 11.30 Learning Outside the Classroom – A headteacher’s perspective
TBC
- 11.50 Learning Outside the Classroom – The greater social benefits of experiential learning
Professor Michael Reiss, Director of Education, The Royal Society
- 12.10 Q&A with headteacher (TBC) and Prof Michael Reiss
- 12.20 **Question-focused discussion groups – Debating the morning’s key issues**
How to access learners outside the school context
Leader: Rhian Tritton, Learning Advisor, National Trust
The problem of resources – how to deliver LOtC with limited means
Leader: TBC
Making LOtC provision flexible enough to deal with a changing curriculum
Leader: John Reeve, Chair, GEM
Initiative Overload – how to see the wood for the trees
Leader: Don Henson, Head of Education & Outreach, Council for British Archaeology
Overcoming the obstacles to experiential learning in secondary schools
Leader: Gail Bromley, Education Development Manager, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
- 12.45 Feedback
- 13.00 Lunch
- 14.00 The Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto – An update
Peter Carne, Manifesto Champion, DCSF
- 14.20 Q&A with Peter Carne
- 14.30 **Snapshot case studies – Top tips and tales from the coal face**
These case studies will highlight the wide variety of LOtC activity for **all** young people from 0 to 19 such as early years, youth groups and young offenders. The activity might be a one-off project or an ongoing relationship with families or schools, and perhaps carried out in partnership with another organisation.
Delegates who would like to present a five-minute case study should send a summary (100 word max) to the GEM Office by 3 March. If you want to submit a study, but are not sure if it is relevant, please give us a call.
- 15.30 Q&A with case study panel
- 15.50 Closing Remarks
Dr John Stevenson, Director, GEM & Chair, LOtC Heritage Sector Partnership
- 16.00 Conference ends