Primary School Visits 2016-17

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
The Cathedral

Christ Church Cathedral is unique in being the only Cathedral in the world to be also a college chapel. There has been a place of worship here since Saxon times. The church and its spire were built in the 12th century by Augustinian Canons and dedicated to St Frideswide, the patron saint of Oxford.

The Cathedral has some of the finest examples of architecture and stained glass in the country. It is one of Oxford’s iconic buildings, but it is not only beautiful and historic, it is also a working Cathedral, in which prayers and services take place every day. Our School Visits usually include the lighting of a candle and a short period of quiet reflection.

Last year, over a thousand school pupils enjoyed our educational visits and we look forward to welcoming you to the Cathedral over the course of the next academic year.

Find out more at www.chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral/education

What We Offer for KS1

We welcome pupils aged 5-7 and are very happy to offer you a bespoke learning experience to suit whatever area of the curriculum or topic you wish to explore. You may like to focus on specific Christian festivals such as Christmas, Easter or Pentecost, a period of history, or a theme such as Prayer.

Our Key Stage 1 visits are mainly based around storytelling, or hands-on exploration of the Cathedral, but we are happy to adapt to suit your class. We can also offer pupils some practical activities, such as brass rubbing. Sessions for this age group last from 1-2 hours.

Option 1: What is a Cathedral?
This option includes an introduction to the history and life of the Cathedral, followed by a guided tour. The tour includes early Saxon life in Oxford and the story of St Frideswide.

Option 2: Stories and Pictures
This option involves looking around the Cathedral for stories. You can choose to then focus on one story in more depth. There are Bible stories, e.g. Jonah and the Whale, David and Goliath or St Peter. The Cathedral tells the story of several saints, including Oxford’s patron saint, St Frideswide.

Option 3: Who was Jesus?
This option involves pupils dressing up as people from biblical times, or as monks and pilgrims. This option includes a guided tour, an introduction to the story of Jesus, and the people, life and features of the Cathedral.
The standard pattern for each visit is 1.5 – 2.5 hrs, and includes a guided tour of the Cathedral and a short introductory presentation. Pupils on a longer visit may also have time to sketch in the Cathedral.

**Option 1: Cathedral Life**
This workshop offers an introduction to the nature of Cathedral life, followed by a guided tour. Teachers may request a focus on specific themes within Christian life and worship.

**Option 2: St Frideswide and Anglo-Saxon Oxford**
Children can discover how Saxon Oxford grew up beside the River Thames and find out about daily life in Saxon times. In costume, they can go back in time to learn about the life and legacy of the Anglo-Saxon princess who founded the first settlement here.

**Option 3: Medieval Pilgrimage: Holy Bones**
After learning about the monastery and pilgrimage, the children will dress up as medieval pilgrims and role play the story of St Frideswide, as they process to the shrine. There will then be a tour of the remaining medieval parts of the Cathedral. This visit includes an optional story about a medieval family to read in class before the visit.

**Option 4: The Tudors and the Reformation**
This visit explores life in Tudor times and some of the reasons behind the Reformation. Pupils may dress up in Tudor costume to tour the Cathedral and learn about the connections between Christ Church and the Tudors. They can also learn about St Frideswide’s influence upon the lives of Cardinal Wolsey, Henry VIII and Katherine of Aragon.

**Option 5: Christ Church and the Victorians**
This visit can also include a chance to dress in Victorian costume. It offers children a chance to learn about the eminent Victorians who are associated with the Cathedral, including Edward Burne-Jones, Charles Dodgson (Lewis Carroll), Alice Liddell, and George Gilbert Scott. Pupils will learn more about College, City and Cathedral life in Queen Victoria’s reign.

**Option 6: Who is the Christ of Christ Church?**
This option offers pupils the opportunity to learn more about the life and influence of Jesus Christ. What do Christians believe? Who was Jesus? What can we learn about him from the Cathedral? How does it tell his story and give him glory? Pupils can explore key Christian beliefs and festivals, or specific themes to suit the School’s values or RE curriculum.

School groups are welcome to eat their packed lunches on Christ Church meadow but a room may be available in case of wet weather.

If you are coming for the whole day, you could visit another place of religious significance in Oxford’s city centre, the Bodleian Library, the Botanic Garden, or one of the city’s many excellent museums, e.g. the Story Museum, the Ashmolean or the Pitt Rivers.
The Curriculum

The visits encourage pupils to Engage, Enquire, Explore, Evaluate, Reflect and Communicate, in line with our Diocesan RE Scheme of work. A Diocesan planning guide is available before the visit and, where relevant, other materials may be provided.

The visits can enrich the curriculum and help pupils learn more about:

**RE**
- Prayer and worship
- Religion in the community
- Pilgrimage
- Places of worship

**History**
- The life of St Frideswide, Oxford's Saxon patron saint (c. 680-735)
- Life in a medieval monastery
- The evolution of Oxford's City and University

**Arts**
- Developments in art and architecture
- Expressing belief through the arts
  (We support the Arts Award scheme)

Practical Information for Schools

**How to Book:** Please apply to visit at least four weeks in advance. To book, please contact Jackie Holderness, Cathedral Education Officer, on 01865 286003 or education@chch.ox.ac.uk.

Our Education workshops and tours take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings (e.g. 10-12) and afternoons (e.g. 12:45 - 2:45). Cost: £3 per child (plus VAT) Please note that the minimum fee is £40 per session.

There is no parking available at Christ Church, but it is possible to drop off pupils in St Aldates, where schools enter via Tom Tower gate. Further practical information will be sent to you once you have booked your visit. If you would like to make a pre-visit to the Cathedral, please arrange this when you book.

**More details can be found on our website at www.chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral/education.**
For more information, contact:
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St Aldates, Oxford, OX1 1DP

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Tel: 01865-286003

Website: www.chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral/education