

Warrington Museum of Freemasonry

Learning Plan

1. Objective

The Mission of the Museum is, to provide a varied and high quality heritage experience for all members of the community.

In so doing, the Museum aims to engage with learners of all ages and backgrounds in developing their knowledge and understanding of the development of Freemasonry, both nationally and locally, as part of Warrington's cultural environment.

2. Background

The museum has a unique place in the town of Warrington, based in Winmarleigh House, also a building of considerable historic interest. It is one of three independent museums in the town and located in the cultural quarter. Elias Ashmole the first registered English Freemason was initiated in Warrington.

The Museum is the only Masonic museum in the West Lancashire and holds many artefacts of both historical and general interest. It additionally has strong links with other similar museums including the internationally renowned Masonic Museum and Library, at Great Queen Street in London.

3. Learning Opportunities

The Museum is open to the public and encourages visits from individuals and interest groups. It additionally provides a useful resource for family history research.

The Trustees and volunteers are knowledgeable and able to provide general information or where required, specific detail either by way of the Museum's own documented researches or visual (PowerPoint) presentations.

We aim to promote a further understanding of the development of Freemasonry, by effectively demystifying some of the more generally held perceptions of the organisation. The museum does this through an open and welcoming engagement with its visitors.

It is intended to continue the collection and conservation of related artefacts to enrich the learning experience of visitors, both Masonic and non-Masonic.

During the annual National Heritage Open Days event particularly, the Museum stages a themed exhibition, to stimulate interest in its learning opportunities.

The museum provides a base which is welcoming and conducive for students and Masonic historians, who want to research for dissertations, study for a thesis or pursue a general interest.

A possible future development is by forming a relationship with a local Masonic care home. The Museum could potentially be an active participant in dementia reminiscence days.

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Policy Approved by Board of Trustees

Signature: *B Jameson*

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