

Explore Arts Award at West Berkshire Museum during the summer holidays

Dear parent/guardian,



You are considering doing or have chosen to do your child's Explore Arts Award at West Berkshire Museum this summer. Arts Award supports young people to develop as artists and arts leaders. We want to inspire children and young people aged up to 25 to enjoy the arts. We offer the chance to develop creativity, communication and leadership skills, and get recognised through Arts Awards national qualifications. Arts Award is offered at five levels and this award, Explore, is the second rung on the of the arts adventure; we

suggest this would be suitable for 7-12 year olds. More info: <http://www.artsaward.org.uk/>

West Berkshire Museum is an Arts Award centre, which means we can run and administer the arts award, and we are currently able to offer arts awards at the Discover and Explore levels. This summer we are offering the Explore Arts Award only. *The award can be achieved through as few as 3 visits to the museum or, once inspired, as many visits as you wish!* As this is self-led for the most part, you can do it at your own pace and it gives your child the opportunity to dictate how they wish to complete the log and explore the arts, within the flexible framework outlined overleaf.

To get your Explore Arts Award pack (until stocks last), please go to the West Berkshire Museum and pay the fee of £25 (one pack required per child doing the Explore Arts Award); the fee is to cover the cost of the log, materials, moderation and certificate. A pack contains the following:

- This information letter
- Arts Award Explore log book (with assessment sheet on back cover)
- A ticket to any two museum craft activities during summer 2019; normal price £2 per child/activity. Please see overleaf for family craft day dates and details.
- *Arts Award Explore certificate (only on successful completion and submission of your log book to West Berkshire Museum for moderation and certification). Please note: if you do not complete or submit your log then you will not receive a certificate.

*The fee includes the cost of posting your marked log book and certificate to you. NO REFUNDS available for incomplete logs etc.

Please ask at the museum reception for the Explore Arts Award packs (available from late May onwards). For more information, please call 01635 519562 and ask for Clare Bromley or email clare.bromley@westberks.gov.uk

Advice on how to complete the Explore Arts Award log

Front cover (page 1): child's full name (as you wish it to appear on the certificate); postal and email addresses; date of birth; gender; and a contact telephone number of a parent/guardian. Read pages 2 and 3.

Part A: Inspire.

Page 4: say what art you like, what you'd like to do and what you're good at e.g. I like Roman history and mosaics/wall paintings from Pompeii, so I plan to take part in both these activities at the museum. Luckily I am good at making patterns (mosaics) and at working with clay and paint (wall painting). *I may even draw, doodle or paint in this space to show my skills in these areas.*

Page 5: say which two museum craft activities you plan to do (see list in blue below).

Pages 6/8: Draw or stick in images of you taking part in both of the museum craft activities. **Remember: you have a free entry ticket to two craft days at the museum** – you can even stick in the stamped ticket into your log book.

Here's the list for you to choose from:

Friday 2nd August, 10am-3pm, drop-in, *Beautiful brooches*

Make an Anglo-Saxon saucer brooch from clay, paint, gems and a pin.

Friday 9th August, 10am-3pm, drop-in, *Marvellous mosaics*

Make a Roman-inspired mosaic coaster from tiles and grout.

Friday 15th August, 10am-3pm, drop-in, *Wonderful walls*

Make a Roman-inspired wall painting.

Friday 22nd August, 10am-3pm, drop-in, *Spectacular scarabs*

Make a scarab out of polystyrene shapes and other craft materials, decorate with Deco pens and gold paint.

Friday 29th August, 10am-3pm, drop-in, *Perfectly potty*

Make a Neolithic clay pot from air-drying clay, and decorate using Stone Age-inspired materials.

*Don't forget to say what you found inspiring about taking part on **pages 7 and 9!***

Part B: Explore

Page 10: You can choose to complete this in several ways. You can use the interview sheet ('find out about the museum and a job in it' sheet, enclosed) and prepare questions to ask a museum professional or you can find out about any artist (alive or dead). If you wish to question a museum professional, please come to one of the holiday club dates listed here:

Thursday 8th August, drop-in, 10.00-11.15am

Thursday 22nd August, drop-in, 10.00-11.15am

You can also drop-in on these days to ask any questions you have about the award and/or completing your log book. Please try to attend **at least one** holiday club date.

Page 11: You can choose any arts organisation but we suggest the museum and you can drop-in on one of the above Thursday holiday club dates (above) to ask your questions about the museum as well as do a self-led visit of the Cloth Hall to get info.

Page 12/13: say more about the arts organisation and/or artist here as well as attach your completed 'explore the museum...' sheet'.

Part C: Create

Page 14/15: say what you are going to create, what with and how long it will take as well as how it will take and how you created it. You might like to say what inspired you and take photos of each stage of the creation process. You can come to a **third** craft day (on a Friday) at the museum and use what you create there as your final piece. Alternatively, you could go to another craft/arts/music day elsewhere e.g. Shaw House or the Corn Exchange, and use what you create there instead.

Page 18/19: take a photo of your completed piece and stick onto these pages.

Part D: Present

Page 20/21: complete 20 and then say about the pop-up exhibition you mounted at West Berkshire Museum on **Saturday 7th September (10am-11.15am)** on page 21. Take a picture for page 22. You can stick in a copy/photo of your exhibition panel too.

Page 23: Extra space for anything you cannot include elsewhere.

When completed, please remember to bring in your log book to West Berkshire Museum for submission for Arts Award Explore moderation and certification. Make sure you put all details on the front of the log, page 1. **PLEASE SIGN THE BACK COVER ASSESSMENT SHEET by signing it is your own work.**

All log books must be submitted (to the museum) on or before 29th September 2019 as this summer's candidates need to be sent as a group for moderation and certification. It may take 4-8 weeks after this date for you to receive your certificate/log. Any logs submitted after this date will have to wait to be processed with the next group, which may not be until 2020.

Good luck with your arts journey of discovery!