



Traditions of Easter

Guidelines for Supervising Teachers

Preparing for Your Visit:

It is strongly recommended that supervising staff should arrange a pre-visit to familiarise themselves with facilities at the Museum. Complimentary tickets are available on request in order to assist with planning and risk assessments. A Hazard Identification sheet is also provided in order to help you with your risk assessment.

Practicalities:

- **Where to Go and How to Get There:** The activities will take place at Pockerley Old Hall. To get to Pockerley, turn right at the entrance tram stop and head down the hill. At the next tram stop, turn right and walk up Pockerley bank to reach the house.
- **Arriving on Time:** If your school has the first session booked (10.30-12.00), it is advisable to walk straight to your workshop location from the main entrance. In the event of a late arrival every effort will be made to accommodate the full time of the activity, however, due to other bookings this may not always be possible.
- **What to Bring/Wear:** Pupils will need appropriate clothing. Beamish is an open air museum and the weather may be inclement – warm coats, hats and gloves are essential. Please be aware that paths/ roadways may be wet or icy so all pupils should wear suitably warm and sturdy footwear.
- **Toilets:** It is advisable that pupils visit the toilets before the activity. In addition to those at the main entrance, the nearest toilets are at Pockerley Old Hall, at the back of the house. Please ask staff for directions to these.
- **Health and Safety Information:** A Hazard Identification Sheet will be provided with your booking in order to advise you of any possible risks or hazards and the whole group will be briefed on health and safety during the activity.
- **Access:** There is quite a steep hill up to Pockerley. If there is anyone in your group with access needs please inform the bookings officer on bookings@beamish.org.uk or telephone on 0191 470 3026 for advice.
- **Allergies:** Please make sure you are aware of any possible allergies children in the class may have. During the session children will be using eggs and baking ingredients (wheat flour/gluten, milk/dairy, nuts, sesame seeds, eggs). Also in their visit children may meet animals. Let the bookings officer know of such allergies in advance of the session so plans can be made accordingly.

Outline of Activity:

- In this activity pupils will go into the kitchen, where they will be given an introduction to a mid Victorian Easter. Following this the group will be split into three smaller groups and partake in a carousel of several Easter and spring related activities. Each smaller group needs to be accompanied by a school adult. After the introduction, the groups will rotate round the activities. Two activities will be led by Beamish staff and one will be led by the accompanying school adults.

Activities include:

Baking Easter buns – Beamish staff led. Children will help to weigh out and mix ingredients before they are put into the range to bake.

Making Easter cards – School staff led. Children will make an Easter card, decorating it with real pressed flowers.

Easter bonnets and games – Beamish staff led. As a group, children will add ribbons and flowers to a straw hat to make an Easter bonnet for the mistress of the house. They will then play traditional Easter games such as egg jarping and egg and spoon races (the exact content of this section is weather dependent).

At the end of the session, the group will come back together to share what they have done. The children will take home their Easter card.

Objectives of Activity:

- To explore and experience the activities of people in the Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian around spring and Easter.
- To understand some of the similarities and differences between life then and now, using the atmosphere and background of a traditional Georgian setting.

Ideas for Pre and Post Visit:

- **Pre:** Pupils could explore the traditions of Easter, perhaps particularly in the North East, and examine the religious and symbolic meaning behind the themes and images that are seen all around at Easter.
- **Post:** Pupils could use the experience at Beamish to write a poem or story of their experiences of a Victorian Easter. Before solid chocolate eggs, another popular Victorian activity was to create a paper mache egg in two halves, decorate it and put sweets inside to give as an Easter gift. Children could also decorate eggs.

Contact Us: If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us:
Simon Woolley on 0191 370 4011, email education@beamish.org.uk; or
Bookings Officer on 0191 370 4026, email bookings@beamish.org.uk.

Hazard Identification Sheet Traditions of Easter Session

Location: Pockerley Old Hall

Potential Hazard	Who is particularly at risk	Context of hazard and steps to be taken by accompanying adults to prevent accidents	Risk of accident/ dangerous occurrence High/medium /low	If high or medium what additional precautions or measures need to be taken to reduce risk to low
Slips and Trips	Children and Adults	<p>The kitchen floors and yards at Pockerley Old Hall are stone and can therefore become wet and slippery in bad weather. Steps in the old house are worn and uneven. In addition, Pockerley Old Hall is dimly lit and can be dark, so care must be taken when moving around. Everyone must walk at all times. Museum staff will arrange equipment to minimise trips. Participants will be made aware of rugs and dark furniture which they may trip over and supervising adults should ensure care is taken.</p> <p>There are steps and uneven ground in Pockerley Garden, which children or adults can trip over if care is not taken. The grass in the paddock may be wet and slippery. Museum staff will organise the activities according to the weather and ground conditions. The children will be playing games and extra care should be taken if the children are running around.</p> <p>Supervising adults should ensure that children are wearing sturdy shoes.</p> <p>As children will be split into groups during the session, supervisory adults should ensure that there is an adult assigned to each group and that they continually watch the children under their care to guard against slips and trips.</p>	Low	
Cuts from Pointed or sharp objects e.g. grater	Children and Adults	<p>In the session, the children will be baking Easter buns which will involve grating orange zest. Only Beamish staff will use sharp utensils and children will be supervised during baking activity.</p>	Low	

Allergies to substances.	Children and adults	The activity will involve the handling of eggs, herbs, flowers and other substances during the session. The group may also come into contact with animals or fur objects. Teachers should make themselves aware of all known allergies in children taking part in this session, and let the Beamish staff know if there is likely to be an issue. Teachers must have all available medical knowledge and equipment belonging to the child to deal with allergic reactions, and Beamish staff will have contact with first aiders in the museum via radio. Beamish staff will ensure that objects which are needed but could be put into mouths are constantly supervised or put out of reach. Supervisory adults should inform Beamish staff of any allergies prior to the session.	Low	
Allergies to food	Children and Adults	The activity involves baking Easter buns which will include the following ingredients: mixed dried fruit, orange, margarine, sugar, eggs, self-raising flour, milk, fondant icing. Allergens include gluten/wheat, eggs, milk/dairy, nuts, and sesame seeds. School staff must be aware of any children with allergies and inform Beamish staff if children cannot take part in the baking activity. At the end of the session, children will be able to eat the buns they have made – teachers will manage handing out of the buns in case children are present who cannot eat them.	Medium	School staff to be aware of any children with allergies and work with Museum staff to ensure all are kept safe.
Fires and candles	Children and Adults	A coal fire will be burning throughout the session in the kitchen, parlour and Old House therefore it is possible that there will be some smoke and dust in the air. With the smoke and dust in the air there is the possibility of asthma attacks from inhaling smoke/dust. Supervisory adults should make Beamish staff aware of any asthmatics in the group and should also ensure that participants have necessary inhalers etc. An open fire also poses the risk of burns. There will always be a guard in front of the fire and Beamish staff will explain the danger of going too close to the fire before the session begins. Any candles will be placed out of reach of children. Supervisory adults should observe the children under their care at all times to ensure that children do not go too near the fire.	Medium	Children should be supervised at all times and never left unattended near an open fire. The children should have the dangers of fire explained clearly before the session begins.
Illness from dirty hands	Children and adults	Children and adults will all need to wash their hands before taking part in the baking activity and prior to eating the buns at the end of the activity.	Low	

Bites from animals such as pigs, horses and others.	Children	There are horses in the fields and stables at Pockerley and cats, pigs and poultry around the farmhouse, which all present a risk of bites and scratches. There is also a risk of illness from touching the animals or fences. Children should be supervised at all times by school staff and kept at a sensible distance from the animals to prevent injury to themselves, or damage to clothes should an animal jump up in their pen. They should be told not to put fingers in mouths and must wash their hands at the end of the activity and before eating or drinking. Pregnant women are advised to take extra care.	Low	
Craft equipment - small cuts/ scratches from scissors and wired fake flowers, ingestion of glue, strangulation by long lengths of ribbon, pressed flowers.	Children	During the session children will be using craft equipment to make Easter cards and decorate a bonnet. This includes card, scissors, wired fake flowers, ribbon, glue sticks and real pressed flowers. Children should be supervised by school staff to ensure they do not put any items in their mouths and behave sensibly with the equipment.	Low	
Steps up and down to kitchen garden	Children and adults	The steps into the kitchen garden are steep. Children must be supervised by school and museum adults going up and down the steps and use the handrail.	Low	
Egg hunt - poison from plant ingestion, scratches from plants, water troughs.	Children	During the activity the children may take part in an egg hunt, looking in the garden for hidden eggs. There is a possibility they may catch their skin looking around plants. Care will be taken to place the eggs safely and children will be correctly briefed to reduce risk of scratches. There are also water troughs in the garden. Children should be supervised at all times and encouraged to be sensible. During the session will come into contact with other plants/flowers in the garden. Children should be supervised at all times and ingestion of any plants should be prevented.	Low	
Egg based games	Children	During the activity children will take part in Easter games such as egg jarring, egg and spoon races, egg bowling. Some of these will use wooden eggs and some real eggs. Children should be supervised to ensure sensible behaviour to prevent bruises during egg bowling, and slips and trips during races or egg dancing. Instructions from Museum staff must be followed to ensure games are played safely.	Low	
Group work	Children	Other visitors will be visiting the house and garden whilst the activity is taking place. Children should stay within their groups and be supervised by School staff at all times. School adults should be aware of the children in their care and be aware of who they are talking to.	Low	

Winter weather – ice, snow, cold	Children and adults	Beamish is an open air museum. Please advise all participants on the trip to come dressed in warm clothing – winter coats, gloves, hats and sturdy shoes. Museum staff will keep paths clear and use grit to improve surfaces. Museum staff will advise teachers on the situation on arrival and react to conditions should they deteriorate.	Low	
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ALL children and adults should wash their hands at the end of the activity and before eating and drinking. Hand washing facilities are located at Pockerley Old Hall.

Date Reviewed: 21st March 2017

By: Catherine Rice (Learning Co-ordinator)