



The Call to War

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. Free tickets are available on request in order to assist with planning and risk assessments. A Hazard Identification Sheet will also be provided in order to help you with your risk assessment.

Practicalities:

- **Where to go and how to get there:** The Call to War begins in the Chapel. To get there either take the tram from the entrance in the direction of the town, get off at the Home Farm stop and walk down into the Colliery Village, use the access route from the entrance or take the woodland walk from Pockerley. Once in the Colliery Village, make your way to the Chapel (next to the School), where you will be met by a member of staff.
- **Arriving on Time:** Please ensure you arrive at the Chapel on time. If you are booked on the first session it is advisable to walk straight to the Colliery Village. 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 be possible.
- **What to Bring/Where:** Pupils will need appropriate clothing. Beamish is an open air museum and the weather may be inclement.
- **Toilets:** The nearest toilets are in the lamp cabin, next to the mine or beside the Band Hall.
- **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.
- **Access:** An Access bus is available and can take any members of your group with access needs into the Colliery Village. There are steps up to the Chapel and to some of the other buildings however the groups can be arranged to suit any access needs. If there is anyone in your group with access needs please contact the bookings officer on bookings@beamish.org.uk or telephone on 0191 370 4026 and they will be able to advise you.

Objectives of Activity:

The activity aims to:

- Encourage young people to explore the push and pull factors which resulted in men signing up to voluntarily fight in the Great War, including underage men.
- Encourage a greater understanding of the impact of the Great War upon the Home Front.
- Empathise with real life identities in 1914.
- Develop debate and thinking skills.

During the session students will:

- Explore themes such as recruitment, patriotism, propaganda, peer pressure through PAL's battalions, job and educational opportunities in 1914, cowardice.
- Determine whether Joseph made the right decision by deciding to enlist in 1914 as well as debate as to what was the main driving factor behind this decision.

Outline of Activity:

On being met at the Chapel the group will be asked to split into four or five groups, which can be single sex if desired (**NOTE:** Beamish staff will not accompany the groups so accompanying staff will need to play an active role in supervising the groups). The children will be met by a member of staff who will inform them that a note has been found from a boy. It is up to the pupils to decide what has happened and why this 15 year old boy has gone to war.

To help them to do this they will visit different characters in the pit community.

Pupils will need to ask questions to find out about Joseph as a person and what has happened, discover different people's attitudes towards the war and consider what they think drove him to enlist as an underage soldier in 1914. Groups will then report on what they have discovered and decide together what they think the different reasons were, such as the white feather movement, patriotism, PAL's battalions, propaganda, lack of opportunity, his girlfriend and his father. Once pupils have decided what they think has happened and why, they will discuss the possible consequences of his decision.

Contact Us: If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us at the Museum. Telephone Simon Woolley on 0191 370 4011 or email education@beamish.org.uk.



Hazard Identification Sheet –The Call to War

Location: Pit Village

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	Students and Adults	Participants will be walking around The Pit Village and the mine area, where the ground is sometimes uneven and slippery. Beamish staff will advise participants to take care. Supervisory adults should ensure that all the students are wearing appropriate and sturdy footwear.	Low	
Fires	Students and Adults	Students will be visiting different areas, including two of the pit cottages and the school. In these areas there will be coal fires lit. Beamish staff will advise students to stay away from the fire and guards will be kept in front of the fires to keep students away from them. Supervisory adults should monitor the behaviour of the students under their care.	Low	
Dust/smoke	Students and Adults	As a result of the open coal fires in the pit cottages and school it is possible that some rooms will be smoky or dusty. Beamish staff will keep areas as well ventilated as possible. Supervisory adults should be aware of any students with allergies/asthma and ensure participants have necessary inhalers. Please inform Beamish staff if there is a problem and an alternative task will be provided.	Low	
Vehicles on The Pit Village road	Children and Adults	During the session participants will be moving around The Pit Village area and will therefore be crossing the main 'road' through the Village. Although there is little traffic there is a bus which regularly comes down into the village. Beamish staff will warn the group to be careful on the road and	Low	

		accompanying adults should ensure that these instructions are followed. Accompanying adults should ensure that care is taken when moving around The Pit Village.		
Steps into buildings	Children and Adults	Children will be going into the chapel, the school and one of the pit cottages. All these have steps up to them which could provide a trip hazard if care is not taken. Beamish staff will advise the group to take care at the beginning of the session. Accompanying staff should reinforce this message and monitor the behaviour of the children in their care.	Low	
Trip hazards at the mine	Children and Adults	As part of the session children will visit the mine to interview the miners. Although pupils will not go down the mine as part of this session, there are trip hazards such as rails on the ground. Beamish staff will warn children of any trip hazards. Accompanying staff should reinforce Beamish staffs' message and supervise the children under their care to ensure they are being careful and sensible.	Low	
Steep steps up to the heapstead	Children and Adults	If no staff are available at the mine or they are too busy to speak to pupils needing to interview them, groups might be directed to the heapstead to speak to a member of staff. This would involve climbing a number of steep steps. Beamish staff will advise care and accompanying adults should reinforce this message and ensure that care is taken on the steps.	Low	
Group work- security issues	Students and Adults	During the visit students will be working in groups, some of which will not be accompanied by a supervisory adult. Supervising adults should stress how students should behave and warn them of any potential hazards. Supervising adults should also ensure that they have devised a system to monitor where their students are.	Low	

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