



# Photography in the Town

## 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 will also be provided in order to help you with your risk assessment. It is vitally important that **teachers bring digital cameras from school** to take the images, the museum will **not** supply these for this activity.

### Practicalities

- **Where to go and how to get there:** The Photography takes place in the Town. To get there take the tram from the entrance in either direction. A member of staff will meet you on the Town Street, outside Ravensworth Terrace.
- **Arriving on Time:** Please ensure you arrive on time. 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. The activity will last 1 hour.
- **What to Bring/Where:** Please remember that Beamish is an open air museum and pupils should come dressed for the weather. Specific clothes will help with the costume element of the activity. This is addressed below.
- **Toilets:** The nearest toilets are in the Town, close to the Bank.
- **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 Town. There are stairs to the changing areas and the band stand, however arrangements can be made to suit any access needs. If anyone in your group has access needs please contact the Bookings Officer on [bookings@beamish.org.uk](mailto: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:

- Immerse pupils in the photography of the Victorian Period
- Understand the limitations of photography of the Victorian Period and to re-enact these limitations and to create their own similar images

During the session students will:

- View photographs from the Victorian period. Working in groups to match the captions to the photographs. Determine which images the students like and why. Get into appropriate costume and working groups take images of each other. Take group photograph. Get changed back into everyday clothes.

## Outline of Activity

1. Working in two groups the students will match the captions to the Victorian Photographs offered
2. Discussion of how the images were taken and how that differs from photographs today. Students will decide what they would like to wear and where they would like their photographs to be taken.
3. Get into costume and working in groups to take images of each other according to the number of digital images brought.
4. Costume change – return to the changing rooms to remove costumes and gather personal belongings.

The students will be taking their photographs in the public areas of the Museum.

## Classroom Preparation

During their photograph creation, pupils should consider: facial expression, background, the objects they would like to hold, the story they would like to tell of themselves, posture, who else might be in their photograph, composition, place... these things could be explored before the students visit the Museum to do the activity.

## Costumes

Pupils will be in costume for this activity; clothing will consist of items from our Suffrage Costume Bank mixed with some of the pupil's own clothing. Our Suffrage Costume Bank holds the following items of clothing:

COSTUME BANK	
Girls Costumes	Boys Costumes
Skirts, blouses, dresses, shawls, hats, sashes	Shirts, jackets, waistcoats, ties, hats

Pupils should wear some of their own clothing:

<u>Girls own clothing:</u>	<u>Boys own clothing:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dark shoes (not trainers)</li><li>• T shirt (under costume)</li><li>• Skirt/shorts (under costume)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plain shirts - white, blue, grey</li><li>• Dark shoes (not trainers)</li><li>• Dark/grey trousers</li></ul>

- Costumes will be chosen according to the character each pupil will be portraying, e.g. miners wife, teacher, miner, wealthy property owner etc. A member of staff will help with this.
- To get the most out of this activity and to actually get a sense of 'travelling back in time', participants should avoid wearing heavy makeup and jewellery etc. Hairstyles should reflect historical fashions as much as possible.
- In cold weather, layers should be worn under costumes, (T shirts, trousers etc.). Pupils own plain scarves and gloves can also be worn.
- Costumes are designed to be flexible and fit a range of sizes. Pupils will be given the 'best fit' rather than a 'perfect fit'. Once all of the items are added – hats, shawls, ties etc. – the 'effect' will be created.

**If there are any unusual costume sizes within your group please do notify us when booking so we can cater for everyone taking part.**

## Photography in the Town - Learning Objectives

What?

- To dramatise and communicate about the past photography
- To create their own images that say something about who they are today
- To understand the parameters of photography in the past and to edit their own images accordingly
- To make decisions about how they would like their images to be taken and to support other students in the choices they make

How?

- By viewing photographs from the past and looking into the photographs
- By getting into costume to have their own images taken in the same style as those taken in the past.

Why?

- To empathise with the photographers of the past.
- To appreciate those past parameters and interpret the style in a modern context
- To develop communication skills

### Confidence Building

Building confidence is a key objective of this activity:

- confidence in personal abilities
- confidence to express views
- confidence to 'perform' in front of museum visitors

**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 e-mail [education@beamish.org.uk](mailto:education@beamish.org.uk).

## Hazard Identification Sheet – Photography in the Town

Location: The Town (including changing areas above Solicitors, street, bandstand and Masonic 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	Students and Adults	During the course of the activity children will be moving around The Town area. The ground surface includes cobbled areas which can be uneven in places. During wet weather cobbles may become slippery. Beamish staff will advise students to walk rather than run. Supervising adults should ensure that this advice is carried out. Students should be advised to wear sturdy shoes on the day.	Medium	Beamish staff will warn students to take care and watch where they are going. Supervising adults should ensure these instructions are carried out.
Walking into things e.g. water fountain steps	Students and Adults	There are hazards such as paving stones, curbs and steps up to the water fountain, which could be walked into or tripped over if attention is not paid. Beamish staff will warn students of these hazards and advise them to make sure they look carefully where they are going.	Medium	Beamish staff will warn students to take care and watch where they are going. Supervising adults should ensure these instructions are carried out.
Trams and buses crossing	Students and Adults	As part of the session students will be crossing the Town Street in their small groups. Students will be made aware of the trams and buses passing through the Town and to take precautions accordingly.	Medium	Staff and supervising adults should watch for moving vehicles at all times.
Frightening horse	Students and Adults	As there is a stable in The Town, there is the possibility that horses will be being led through The Town. Students will be made aware of the horses passing through the Town and to take precautions accordingly. Supervising adults should support Beamish staff and ensure that their instructions are followed.	Low	

Moving up and down stairs in costume	Students and Adults	Students will change into costume and will be moving up and down stairs in their costume. Staff will ensure girls skirts/ dresses are not too long so as to pose a trip hazard. Students will be advised by Beamish staff to take care when going up and down the stairs and asked to walk and not run up and down these. Supervising adults should ensure that students follow Beamish staff's instructions.	Low	
Fire in building	Students and Adults	Beamish Museum staff will ensure that exits are kept clear in case of fire in the building. In the event of evacuation due to fire, please follow instructions from Museum staff who will guide the group to the muster point.	Low	

**Date Reviewed:** 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015

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