

Join us at Wymondham Abbey to experience life in 1107, meet with Benedictine monks, peasants, noblemen, a falconer and a jester and immerse your students in medieval life.

The year is 1107 – William D'Aubigny, a Norman nobleman - favourite and trusted friend of the King - has decided to found a priory in Wymondham. He has brought Benedictine monks here from France and work has begun on building an imposing new church. With only 50 years having passed since the Norman Conquest the Saxon people are still coming to terms with Norman rule and changes to their way of life. Explore these changing times by meeting with the people experiencing it.



Whilst at the Abbey students move amongst the reenactors and authentic sights, sounds and smells as they learn about medieval life. Fitting perfectly with the KS3 History curriculum students can explore the change brought by the Norman Conquest as well as understand more about the patterns and structure of everyday medieval life. This year's experiences include learning about money and the opportunity to mint a coin, falconry displays, learning the art of foolery with a jester, experiencing the music and instruments of the time, meeting the locals and finding out about medieval fashion.



During the day students have the opportunity to ask questions and interact with reenactors, following their own line of enquiry as well as exploring questions which can be set by school teachers.



### Curriculum links - ideal for KS3 History -

‘Pupils should be taught... the development of Church, state and society in Medieval Britain 1066-1509’

Examples (non-statutory)

- the Norman Conquest
- society, economy and culture: for example, feudalism, religion in daily life (parishes, monasteries, abbeys), farming, trade and towns (especially the wool trade), art, architecture and literature



## What you and your students will gain from the day

Hands on, immersive experiences which bring history to life. The chance to see, smell and hear medieval life inspires students to ask deeper questions and makes history accessible to all ages and abilities.

Wymondham High Academy has a flourishing history department and the take up of GCSE History is very high, with a number of students saying that they were inspired to continue their study by their experiences during living history week.



## How the day works

Students are best split into groups of approx. 15 and can proceed around the stations on a carousel basis. Because of the number of activities (10+) not all of these can be fitted into one day, so some groups will have done different activities, giving each student a different experience. This provides a fantastic opportunity for peer learning and sharing once back at school.

**Lunch** - a hearty hog roast is available on site – students can buy their lunch individually on the day or this can be added to the ticket price and paid for in advance.

**Costume** - students (and teachers!) are encouraged to come dressed for 1107 and a guidance sheet for how to make/adapt clothes will be provided as this really helps students get into the spirit of the day.



## About the event

Wymondham Abbey has been working in partnership with Wymondham High Academy and professional reenactors for many years to provide a hands on, immersive living history experience based here in the church and churchyard. This year, for the first time, we are expanding the week and opening it up to other schools to attend.



## Cost and how to book:

The day costs £15 per student, accompanying adults are free.

Please contact Esther on 01953 607062 or email [learningandevents@wymondhamabbey.org.uk](mailto:learningandevents@wymondhamabbey.org.uk) to find out more and book. The number of student places and days is very limited so book early!