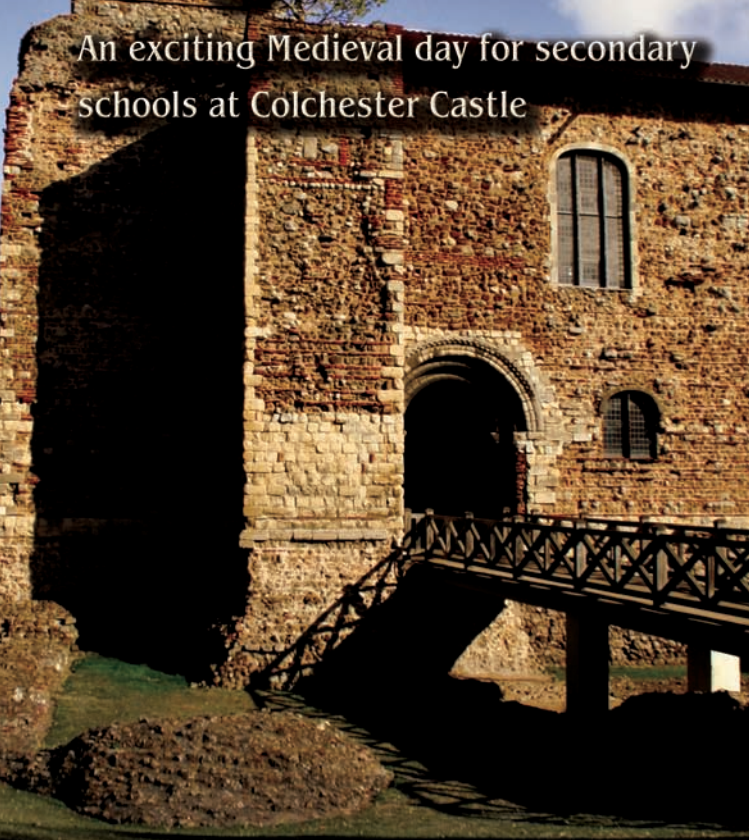


# Castle Under Siege!

An exciting Medieval day for secondary schools at Colchester Castle



Built in 1076, on the remains of a Roman temple, Colchester Castle provides a unique visual timeline, illustrating continuity and change over time and evidence of how and why this Royal Castle was constructed here.

Developed  
in partnership  
with secondary  
school teachers to  
support national  
curriculum

## Step inside and become part of the action...

This exciting whole day package combines a rich mix of re-enactment, trails and self-led discovery.



With a costumed story teller, students will explore the castle from vaults to roof, examining evidence of defences, assessing possible methods of attack and discovering more about the impact of a siege on living conditions in the castle.



Meeting a nun they will find out about illness and medical beliefs and practices in medieval times, smelling and identifying a variety of herbs and spices used in medieval simples. What threat did illness pose to those trapped in the castle under siege?



*It was great, I could see what it was really like instead of imagining it.*  
Student, Amberfield School, Ipswich

Stepping into the cells students will hear tales from the Gaoler of those held here, their crimes and punishments. They will experience the harsh conditions in the prisons and the humiliation of the pillory, discovering more about the legal system in medieval times and how it has changed since then.





*The day is appealing to all abilities, so much to absorb the brightest, and enough 'hands-on' and visual stuff to make the day a memorable experience for all.*

*Teacher, Chantry School, Ipswich*



*The prison drama was very dramatic, believable, lots of exciting information delivered in a dynamic way. Medicine activity delightfully presented and full of wise information. Excellent – the pupils thought she was a real nun.*

*Teacher, Amberfield School, Ipswich*



n 1216 the castle was besieged by King John when a rebel noble Llanvelli, supported by a French garrison, took control of the castle. But was this the best strategy of attack and how likely was it to succeed?



his stimulating day will challenge students to gather, assess and interpret the evidence, before they decide and make their recommendations to the King.



## Booking information:

**Group size:** 150 students maximum

**Length of visit:** 10 – 2pm

The day is flexible and can be tailored to meet the specific requirements of your group.

For more information, charges or to book, please contact our Bookings Officer:

**Telephone** 01206 282937  
**email** bookings.information@colchester.gov.uk

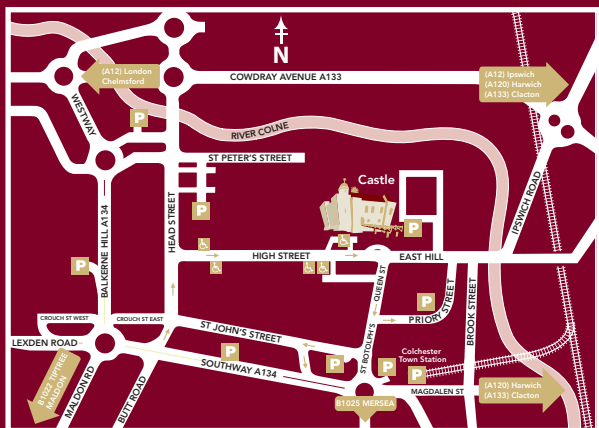
**Text phone users** 18001 01206 282937

**Loans boxes** - bring real artefacts into your classroom. Boxes include: Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, Tudors and Stuarts, Siege of Colchester and World War II.

**Cost:** £20 per half term

**Length of hire:** half term

**Boxes need to be collected and returned to Colchester Castle Museum.**



[www.colchestermuseums.org.uk](http://www.colchestermuseums.org.uk)

Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service,  
14 Ryegate Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1YG