

RAGGED SCHOOL MUSEUM

The Ragged School Museum is a unique survivor of Dr Barnardo's work in the East End, and the most significant Victorian ragged school to survive. The Ragged School Union was a major reform movement of the 19th century; campaigning for universal free education, a keystone of social progress. In a richly authentic setting visitors of all ages are inspired by this remarkable history.

The Ragged School Museum is a witness to the power of education and philanthropy to transform lives.

Barnardo converted canal warehouses on Copperfield Road into a free school, opened in 1877. The attendance register for the 1880s is a glimpse of a world of poverty and deprivation. As a registered charity (800538), we generate 70% of our income and additional income is derived from trusts and foundations. We have no regular core funding and a grant of £3k from the local authority. The Museum has 3.7 staff, and we rely on very committed volunteers when we are open to the public.

Statistics 2012-13

Visitors:	23,031 overall
Schools:	16,305 with 558 sessions delivered to 287 schools
Family Learning:	3,412 participants in 23 sessions
Volunteering & Work placements:	4970 volunteering hours

1. Planning a Sustainable Future

Arts Council England awarded the Museum strategic funds to commission a feasibility study; access report; conservation management plan and collection management plan. Our aims are to bring all of the building into public use; improve and extend public facilities; and diversify income to attain financial sustainability. We are also currently supervising a PhD in collaboration with the School of Geography at Queen Mary University: *Health, environment and the institutional care of children in late Victorian London*.

2. Museum Learning Programme

We offer a dynamic, interactive experience: a school visit to the Museum has a profound effect, igniting an interest in history, and empathy for the poor pupils of 1877. Our programme is regarded as a beacon of good practice and has been commended by the National Literacy Trust. Pupils at Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 can step into the shoes of ragged Victorian children, in sessions that help to teach history, geography and citizenship, as well providing fantastic inspiration for art, drama and literacy. We also offer tailor-made sessions for students of all ages with Special Educational Needs, developed in conjunction with local SEN schools.

3. Family Learning Holiday Activities

The Museum produces innovative and creative family activities during school half terms and holidays. Designed to stimulate the creativity and imagination of children, our activities are inspired by the history of the Ragged School and help promote intergenerational learning. Greater parental involvement in a child's education is a priority for London boroughs. Because local children face multiple deprivations, we offer all our holiday sessions free.

4. Volunteering & Work Placements

The Museum has been committed to volunteering since its foundation and a core group of volunteers is still integral to our work. Today our volunteering encompasses: young adults with learning difficulties through the Tower Project; local university and school students helping with our family learning; high quality university placements (Cumbria, Greenwich, Goldsmith's and Exeter Universities); and work experience (Sir John Cass and Central Foundation Schools, among many others).



The Ragged School from 1879 to 2009