



## Archaeology

Kildare Street

# National Museum of Ireland Primary Schools Programme 2016 - 2017



Visit us all  
year round  
at our four  
Museums



All activities and resources  
all curriculum-linked  
and tailored to your learning needs



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# What can your students explore at Kildare Street?

The National Museum – Archaeology, housed in our beautiful and atmospheric Victorian building on Kildare Street, is home to over two million artefacts and is the national repository for all portable archaeology found in Ireland. See some of Ireland's most iconic artefacts such as the 'Tara' brooch and discover archaeological wonders from the Mesolithic to the late Medieval times.

*"It really is a treasure house with something to appeal to all ages."*





# Plan your visit in 5 easy steps

- 1 Decide on the nature of your visit.**  
Read over the options of type of visit, resources, and schedule of tours and workshops, and chose one which best compliments the work you are doing in your classroom.
- 2 Select your preferred dates and times.**  
Book at least two weeks in advance. Book early and you're more likely to get the dates and times you want.
- 3 Submit your online booking request or contact the [Bookings Office](#).**  
Once your booking is processed, we'll send a Booking Confirmation.
- 4 Get prepared.**  
Get the most from the Museum with a little pre-visit preparation – and plan some follow-up project work back in school.
- 5 Come on time! Have fun, learn and be *inspired*!**

## Contact us

Email [Dublin Bookings Office](#)

Tel: +353 1 6486453



# Exhibitions at Kildare Street

The following exhibitions have a strong link to the Primary SESE History curriculum – and other subjects, including Visual Art, English and SPHE.

**The Museum is home to a wide and dazzling range of exhibitions, including:**

**Kingship and Sacrifice,** which features recently found bog bodies and Iron Age royal regalia, horse trappings, weapons, and ‘bog’ butter.

**Ór – Ireland’s Gold,** displays one of the largest and most important Bronze Age gold collections in Europe.

**Viking Ireland** exhibition where you can see a full-size replica Viking fishing boat, a miniature model of a Viking house, and an exciting display of finds from the Museum’s Dublin excavations, carried out between 1962 and 1981.

**The Treasury - Celtic and Early Christian Ireland** containing the Ardagh Chalice, Tara Brooch, Derrynaflan Hoard and Faddan More Psalter.

## Prehistoric Ireland

which examines the history of human settlement in Ireland from the stone tools of the first hunter-gatherers around 7000 BC to the bronze weapons of the Late Bronze Age around 500 BC.

## Medieval Ireland 1150 – 1550

which explores the stories and artefacts reflecting the lives of nobles, common people and clergy, through everyday Medieval and rare artefacts, from swords and shoes to shrines.

## Ancient Egypt

displays artefacts from late 19th century excavations in Egypt and those collected by Irish travellers such as Lady Harriet Kavanagh. It includes the gilt and painted cartonnage case of the mummy Tentdinebu dated to c. 945 - 716 BC, the mummy portraits of a woman and a young boy, and a model of a wooden boat dated to c. 1900 BC.

## Ceramics and Glass from Ancient Cyprus

## Clontarf 1014: Brian Ború and the battle for Dublin

Discover the myths and the realities of what happened in 1014 and who the real winner of the battle was.

**Temporary exhibition to end Winter 2016**

## Giving Voice to the Voiceless

explores Irishman Roger Casement’s (1864-1916) humanitarian work investigating atrocities in the rubber trade in Africa and South America. Links are primarily to the Post-Primary Curriculum.

**Temporary exhibition**

More information about the time periods and key artefacts on display in each exhibition is available [here](#).





## Guided Tours & Workshops

Guided tours cover a range of time periods from the Mesolithic to Medieval times, normally one exhibition or topic or time period is explored per tour. We can with advance notification tailor tours to classroom work and projects.

Workshops include guided tours, **hands on session with the Museum replica handling collection** and often a craft.

Tours and workshops do book out very fast so please get in touch once you start planing your trip. To book a visit and to get up-to-date information on scheduling of tours and workshops, please contact the [Bookings Office](#).

## Activity Sheets

Find our free activity sheets on the **Explore and Learn** pages of the website [here](#). These sheets – which are designed for use within the Museum – are suitable for Primary students and will help focus a group visit. Each sheet encourages students to observe, analyse, record and discover the answers to the questions as they explore the exhibitions.

Please let the Bookings Office **know if you intend to make a self-guided visit with your class or if you wish to reserve a hard copy set for collection at the start of your visit.**

Due to budgetary constraints we can only provide hard copies of **one worksheet per student.** Don't forget to bring your pencils!

## Choose from:

### The Winter Trail:

Discover how people celebrated, passed the time and feasted in winters past! Use our seasonal trail to learn about Stone Age farmers, Bronze Age warriors, Viking children and Medieval lords and ladies. Exhibitions included are **Prehistoric Ireland** on the ground floor and the **Viking** and **Medieval Ireland** exhibitions on the first floor.

*"It was great for the pupils to see the original pieces and then to handle the replicas prior to creating their own pots, it really brought the skills and techniques used in the past to life for them."*

## Stone Age:

For use in the **Prehistoric Ireland** exhibition on the ground floor. This is available in English and Irish.

## Ancient Egyptian:

For use in the **Ancient Egypt** exhibition on the first floor

## So you want to be a mummy?:

For use in the **Ancient Egypt** exhibition on the first floor. **Please note: this is only available online.**

## Egyptians:

For use in the **Ancient Egypt** exhibition on the first floor; this worksheet is designed for students with special learning needs.

## The Treasury Trail

This trail explores the **Treasury exhibition** and look at some of the most iconic Irish artefacts, such as the 'Ardagh Chalice' and 'Tara Brooch'.

*"It helps them to see history as being about peoples' lives."*



## Activity Sheets continued

### Viking Challenge:

A new 12 page book designed by children's illustrator Mark Wickham, which explores the origins, evidence and homes of the Vikings in Ireland is only available in English.

### Go a Viking:

For use in the **Viking Ireland** exhibition on the first floor; this worksheet is suitable for Primary students, and is only available in Irish in hard copy but in English and Irish online.

### Vikings:

For use in the **Viking** exhibition on the first floor; this worksheet is designed for students with special learning needs

### My Favourite Object/

### An Rud is Fearr Liom:

A basic worksheet designed for use in any exhibition of your choice that develops observation, literacy and writing skills.

## Medieval Ireland activity

### Sheets:

This set of six sheets exploring three themes, **Power**, **Work** and **Prayer**, is designed for senior Primary students. Please note this is only available online. (Age 11+).

### The Activity Sheets are as follows:

- **Power:** Anglo Norman Lords and Irish Chiefs & Lady Margaret Butler
- **Work:** People in the country & People in the town
- **Prayer:** People in the Christian Church & Pilgrim People









# Classroom Resources

Our Education Department offers a wide range of dedicated curriculum-linked resources for teachers.

## Viking Ireland Videos

A set of eight short films, each around five minutes in duration that explore the archaeological evidence for life in Viking Age Ireland. Each film features members of staff from the National Museum explaining what we can learn about Viking culture by looking at artefacts which have been discovered in Ireland. Accompanying Teachers Notes contain: glossary of terms, scripts of each film, curriculum links and where to see the objects in the exhibitions. Available to download and use in the classroom they are available on the Museum's YouTube channel and on the NMI website.  
<http://www.museum.ie/en/exhibition/info/viking-ireland-videos.aspx>

*"This workshop really gets to the heart of what you do..."*

## Bronze Age Handling Box Resource

The Resource Box contains a mixture of Museum quality replica Bronze Age objects of flint, amber and bronze and raw material. In addition the contents include a re-usable Word Hoard wall chart and a roll-up Bronze Age Board Game and a Resource Book which includes guidelines for each object which include planning resources, teaching and learning activities and support resources.

A new micro-website with further resources is online from Autumn 2015. The boxes can be loaned to schools via their local Education Centre.  
<http://microsites.museum.ie/bronzeagehandlingbox/>



# Facilities

## Access

The ground-floor exhibitions, Museum gift shop, Museum Café and restrooms are wheelchair-accessible. There is no wheelchair accessibility to the first-floor exhibitions.

## Shop

The Museum gift shop is located at the main entrance, and contains many books about archaeology and Irish Prehistory. The Museum shop offers teachers a 10% discount.

## Café

The Museum café, Brambles, is on the ground floor. St Stephen's Green and the Grafton Street area are within a few minute's walking distance, and provide a variety of options for picnicking and lunch.

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*"It's cool to know we own gold!"*



# Archaeology Kildare Street

## At a Glance Table of Tours and Workshops



All groups intending to visit the Museum must book. To book and get up-to-date information on scheduling of tours and workshops in 2016 and 2017, please contact the [Bookings Office](#).

Title	Description	Class Level	Curriculum Links	Where	Days	Duration
<b>Handling Workshop:</b> Viking Raiders, Traders, & Settlers	Discover how archaeologists interpret artefactual evidence, from ironing boards of whale-bone to iron helmets, and learn about the origin, livelihoods and beliefs of the Vikings who came and later settled in Ireland.	3rd to 6th class  30 max.	SESE: History SESE: Geography English/Irish	Viking Ireland exhibition and Learning Resource Room	<b>September to December, April to June;</b> Wednesdays 10.15am	75 mins
<b>Ancient Egyptian Art &amp; Handling Workshop:</b> Sacred Scarabs	Explore the beliefs and rituals of the Ancient Egyptians, discover how they mummified the dead, hear why scarab beetles were so special and make your own beetle amulet to take home.	2nd to 6th class  30 max.	SESE History Art SESE: Geography SESE: Science SPHE	Ancient Egypt exhibition and Learning Resource Room	<b>October to June;</b> Wednesdays 10.15am	75 mins
<b>Prehistoric Art &amp; Handling Workshop:</b> Make a Prehistoric Pot	View original Neolithic and Bronze Age pottery, handle museum replicas and using the same tools and techniques as prehistoric potters, create a clay model to take home.	1st to 6th class  30 max.	SESE: History Art SESE Geography SPHE	Prehistoric Ireland exhibition and Learning Resource Room	<b>October to June;</b> Wednesdays 10.15am	75 mins



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## At a Glance Table of Tours and Workshops



Title	Description	Class Level	Curriculum Links	Where	Days	Duration
<b>Prehistoric Handling Workshop:</b> Back to the Bronze Age	The Stone Age and Bronze Age are named after the materials that people used to make tools during these time periods but where did they get these materials from and how did they make the tools? Handle replica artefacts such as flint arrowheads, bronze axes and amber beads and find out more about what life was like for people living in Ireland in Prehistoric times.	3rd to 6th class  30 max.	SESE: History SESE: Geography English	Prehistoric Ireland & Ór – Gold exhibition and Learning Resource Room	<b>October to June;</b> Wednesdays 10:15am	75 mins
<b>Workshop:</b> Kingship & Sacrifice	Find out more about what life in Ireland was like two thousand years ago during the Iron Age through fascinating finds from the peat bog. Visit the mysterious bog bodies and take a look at artefacts they may have worn to special ceremonies. Make a leather armlet like the one discovered with Old Croghan Man.	4th to 6th class	SESE: History SESE: Geography English, SESE: Science	Kingship & Sacrifice exhibition and Learning Resource Room	<b>January to June;</b> Wednesdays 10:15am	75 mins
<b>Tour:</b> The Vikings in Ireland	Discover what the Museum's unique collection of artefacts and displays can tell us about Viking burial customs and beliefs, their society and politics and the new inventions and materials that they brought to Ireland through travel and trade across Europe and the Middle East.	3rd to 6th class  30 max.	SESE: History SESE: Geography English/Irish	Viking Ireland Exhibition	<b>September to May;</b> Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10:30 & 12:00pm	45 mins

# Archaeology Kildare Street

## At a Glance Table of Tours and Workshops



Title	Description	Class Level	Curriculum Links	Where	Days	Duration
<b>Tour:</b> Prehistoric Ireland	Discover the artefacts left behind by Ireland's earliest people, from the hunter-gatherers and first farmers of the Stone Age to the goldsmiths and warriors of the Bronze Age and what insights they can give into the lives and rituals of peoples in the distant past.	1st to 6th class  30 max.	SESE: History	Prehistoric Ireland Exhibition	<b>September to April;</b> Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10:30 & 12:00  <b>May to June;</b> Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at 10:30, 11.30, 12.30 & 2.00, 3.00. 4.00	45 mins
<b>Tour:</b> Highlights	Explore 7,000 years of Irish history through seven exciting artefacts, including the gold lunula, Tara Brooch and the Ardagh chalice!	1st to 6th class  30 max.	SESE: History	Prehistoric Ireland Exhibition and Treasury Exhibition	<b>September to March;</b> Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10:30 & 12:00  <b>April to June;</b> Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at 10:30, 11.30, 12.30 & 2.00, 3.00. 4.00	45 mins
<b>Tour:</b> Bog Bodies	Come face-to-face with a mysterious 2,000 year old bog body and discover exciting finds from Irish wetlands including bog butter. Hear what archaeology and science can tell us about these Celtic People and their rituals and beliefs.	4th to 6th class  30 max.	SESE: History SESE: Science Geography	Kingship & Sacrifice exhibition	<b>November to June;</b> Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10:30 & 12:00pm	45 mins



# Archaeology Kildare Street

## At a Glance Table of Tours and Workshops



Title	Description	Class Level	Curriculum Links	Where	Dates	Availability
<b>Activity Sheet:</b> Stone Age / An Chlochaois	This activity sheet is available in Irish and English and explores the Neolithic artefacts on display in the Museum. Pupils learn what artefacts and monuments tell us about how people survived and lived Stone Age Ireland. Also available in Irish.	1st Class to 6th Class	SESE: History SESE: Geography English/Irish	Prehistoric Ireland	September 2016 to June 2017  Available online, to reserve hard copies, book via the Bookings office.	Tuesday - Friday 10am to 4.00pm  Recommended Duration: 60 minutes
<b>Activity Sheet:</b> The Treasury Trail/ Slí Na Seodlainne	This trail leads the students through The Treasury exhibition of early Christian and medieval artefacts include the 'Ardagh Chalice' and 'Tara Brooch'. Also available in Irish.	4th to 6th class	SESE: History English/Irish	The Treasury	September 2016 to June 2017  Available online, to reserve hard copies, book via the Bookings office.	Tuesday - Friday 10am to 4.00pm  Recommended Duration: 60 minutes
<b>Activity Sheet:</b> Ancient Egyptian	This activity sheet, gives background information about Ancient Egypt and is a trail through the exhibition. The trail explores how artefacts and hieroglyphs give us insights in to the beliefs of the Ancients Egyptians.	4th to 6th class	SESE: History SESE: Geography SESE: Science English	Ancient Egypt	September 2016 to June 2017  Available online, to reserve hard copies, book via the Bookings office.	Tuesday - Friday 10am to 4.00pm  Recommended Duration: 60 minutes

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## At a Glance Table of Tours and Workshops



Title	Description	Class Level	Curriculum Links	Where	Dates	Availability
<b>Activity Sheet:</b> So You Want to be A Mummy?	This Activity Sheet brings pupils on a journey through the exhibition to discover what objects the Ancient Egyptians thought necessary to have for a successful journey to the next world and explains mummification.	3rd to 6th class	SESE: History SESE: Geography SESE: Science English	Ancient Egypt	September 2016 to June 2017  Available online, only.	Tuesday - Friday  10am to 4.00pm  Recommended Duration: 60 minutes
<b>Activity Sheet:</b> The Winter Trail	Using the trail to explore evidence by finding and looking at artefacts in three exhibitions, the pupils discover what Stone Age farmers, Bronze Age warrior and Medieval lords and ladies did in the winter.	5th to 6th class	SESE: History SESE: Geography SESE: Science English	Prehistoric Ireland Viking Ireland Medieval Ireland	November – February  Available online, to reserve hard copies, book via the Bookings office.	Tuesday - Friday  10am to 4.00pm  Recommended Duration: 60 minutes
<b>Activity Sheet:</b> Viking Challenge	A new activity sheet that explains how the finds from Irish archaeological sites tell us about who lived where, what the Vikings believed and how far they traded and travelled.	3rd to 6th class	SESE: History SESE: Geography SESE: Science English	Viking Ireland	September 2016 to June 2017  Available online, to reserve hard copies, book via the Bookings office.	Tuesday - Friday  10am to 4.00pm  Recommended Duration: 60 minutes



# Archaeology Kildare Street

## At a Glance Table of Tours and Workshops



Title	Description	Class Level	Curriculum Links	Where	Dates	Availability
<b>Activity Sheet:</b> Go A Viking/ Dul ar 'Sceimhle Lochlannach'	This trail gets pupils to explore the exhibition and discover what Vikings wore, ate and how they lived. This activity sheet is also available in Irish.	5th to 6th class	SESE: History SESE: Geography SESE: Science English	Viking Ireland	September 2016 to June 2017 English version is online only, Irish version is online & in hard copy. To reserve hard copies, book via the Bookings office.	Tuesday - Friday  10am to 4.00pm  Recommended Duration: 60 minutes
<b>Activity Sheets:</b> Medieval Ireland	A set of six short activity sheets based in the Medieval Ireland exhibition	4th to 6th class	SESE: History SESE: Science English	Medieval Ireland	September 2016 to June 2017  Available online only.	Tuesday - Friday  10am to 4.00pm  Recommended Duration: 60 minutes
<b>Activity Sheet:</b> Egyptians	This short two page activity sheet for special needs students explore the Ancient Egypt exhibition	Special Needs		Ancient Egypt	September 2016 to June 2017  Available online only.	Tuesday - Friday  10am to 4.00pm

# Archaeology Kildare Street

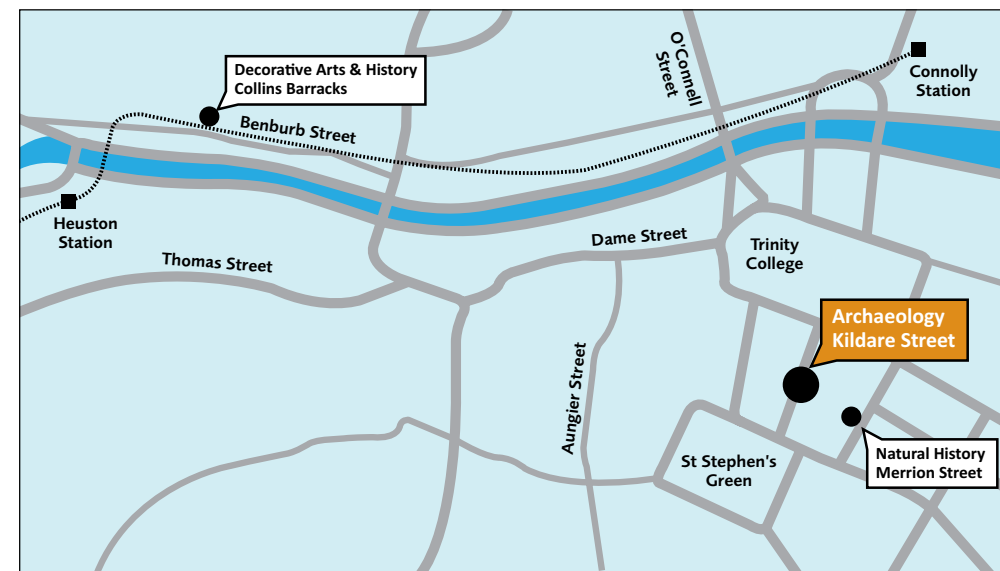
## At a Glance Table of Tours and Workshops



Title	Description	Class Level	Curriculum Links	Where	Dates	Availability
<b>Activity Sheet:</b> Vikings	This short two page activity sheet for special needs students explore the Viking Ireland exhibition	Special Needs		Viking Ireland	September 2016 to June 2017  Available online only.	Tuesday - Friday  10am to 4.00pm
<b>Activity Sheet:</b> My Favourite Object/ An Rudd is Fearr Liom	This introductory activity sheet encourages pupils to explore the exhibitions and chose their favourite artefact. Using the activity sheet they record the details of their favourite object and describe it. Also available in Irish.	1st to 6th class	SESE: History SESE: Geography English/Irish	Prehistoric Ireland	September 2016 to June 2017  Available online, to reserve hard copies, book via the Bookings office.	Tuesday - Friday  10am to 4.00pm  Recommended Duration: 60 minutes



## Location



### How do I get there?

#### On Foot

The Museum is approximately a two-minute walk from Grafton Street and St Stephen's Green and a 15-minute walk from O'Connell Street and Dublin Docklands.

#### Public Transport

**Bus:** Dublin Bus nos. 25, 33, 41, 51, 66, 67 & 84 serve Kildare Street & Dawson St.

**Luas:** Green Line Luas.

The Museum is a two-minute walk from St Stephen's Green stop.

**Train:** Five minutes' walk from Pearse station on Westland Row.

### What parking facilities are available?

There is coach parking on Nassau Street.

### Weekend and Mid-term Events for Families and Adults

There is a public programme of events all year round at weekends and during the school holidays, including family workshops, talks and tours. All events are listed in the [what's on](#) section of the Museum website.

# FAQs and essential information

## Supervision

You should bring at least one adult per fifteen students. If your group does not have adequate supervision the booked activity cannot take place. **Adults must remain with their group at all times and are responsible for the students' behaviour.** Read the Museum's Code of Conduct for groups [here](#).

## Child Protection Policy

You can view our [Child Protection Policy](#) on the Museum website. This policy includes the Image Safe Handbook; the Museum's guidelines on the taking, storage and management of photographic images of children.

## Photography

You can take photographs to record your visit. However, flash photography or video recording is not permitted. Please adhere to our Image Safe Handbook for guidelines on the taking of images of children.

## How long can a visit last?

We recommend that you allow at least 1.5 - 2 hours for a visit.



## Why we ask you not to touch

Please advise your group not to touch the exhibits to avoid damage to the collection. Touching leads to wear and tear, thus potentially irreparably damaging our cultural heritage.

## Lunch Facilities

There are no lunch facilities for school groups at the Museum.

## Opening Hours

Tuesday to Saturday  
from 10.00am to 5.00pm  
Sunday 2.00pm to 5.00pm

**The National Museum of Ireland  
is closed on Mondays.**





# FAQs and essential information

## Advance Booking

All visits must be booked through the Bookings Office at least two weeks in advance. Due to the high volume of visitors and groups visiting, groups who do not book their visits through the Bookings Office may be asked to delay their entry to the Museum.

## Booking Confirmation

**A booking confirmation form will be issued to you by email or post. You must present this form to Museum Reception on arrival.**

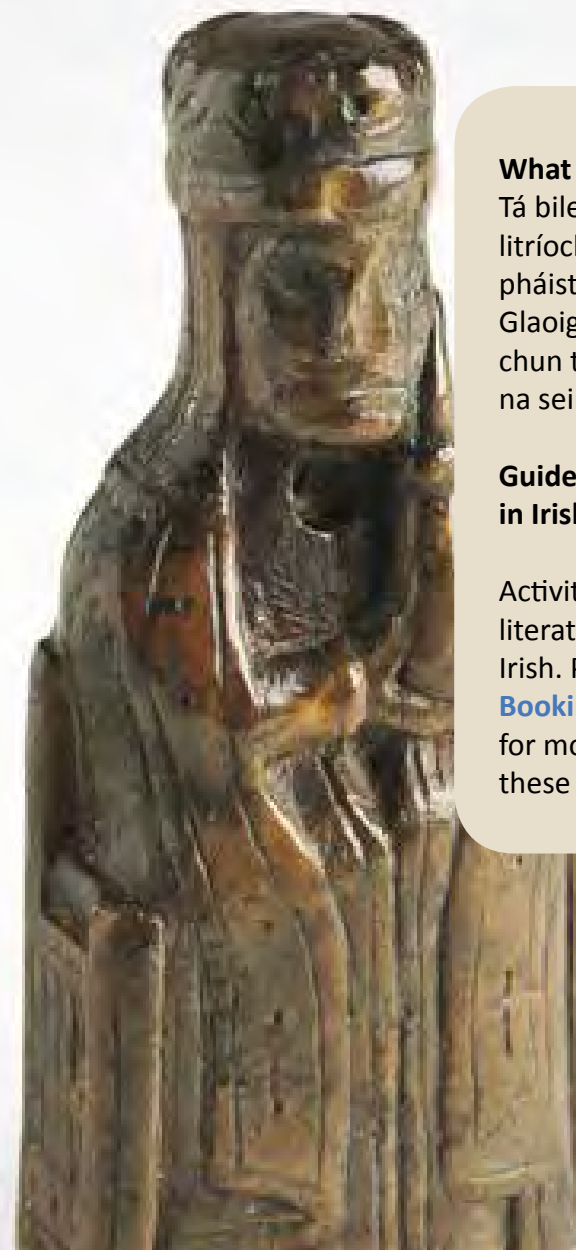
## Late arrivals

Your group must arrive in good time. Please notify the Bookings Office if you are running late on the day. If you wish to cancel a booking or change group numbers, please notify the [Bookings Office](#) as soon as possible. Cancellation notice of 48 hrs is required.

## What is the difference between a facilitated visit and a self-directed visit?

Learning sessions led by Museum educators focus on a particular theme in the Museum exhibitions. These are a fun and interactive way to learn about the collections. All activities are linked to the curriculum.

Self-directed visits can be a more flexible option allowing you to create your own Museum experience. Each Museum has a range of resources available to use during your visit. These are listed within the Learning Resources section for each Museum.



## What is available in Irish?

Tá bileoga oibre agus roinnt litríocht ar fáil trí Ghaeilge do pháistí san Ard-Mhúsaem. Glaoigh ar an [Oifig Teagmhála](#) chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil faoi na seirbhísí seo.

## Guided Tours will be available in Irish from March 2017.

Activity sheets and educational literature are available through Irish. Please contact the [Bookings Office](#) for more information about these services.

## Visit our other National Museums:



DECORATIVE ARTS & HISTORY  
Collins Barracks, Benburb street, Dublin 7



COUNTRY LIFE  
Turlough Park, Castlebar, Co. Mayo



NATURAL HISTORY  
Merrion Street, Dublin 2

### Programme images:

Museum artefacts and schools' events

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Design Departments, National Museum of Ireland

*Image right: Paul Sherwood © 2014*

## Let us know what you think!

We would love to hear your feedback or receive your students' responses to their Museum visit.  
Please [email us](#) your drawings or letters,  
or post them to us at:

Education & Outreach Department  
National Museum of Ireland – Archaeology  
Kildare Street, Dublin 2

[www.museum.ie](http://www.museum.ie)

