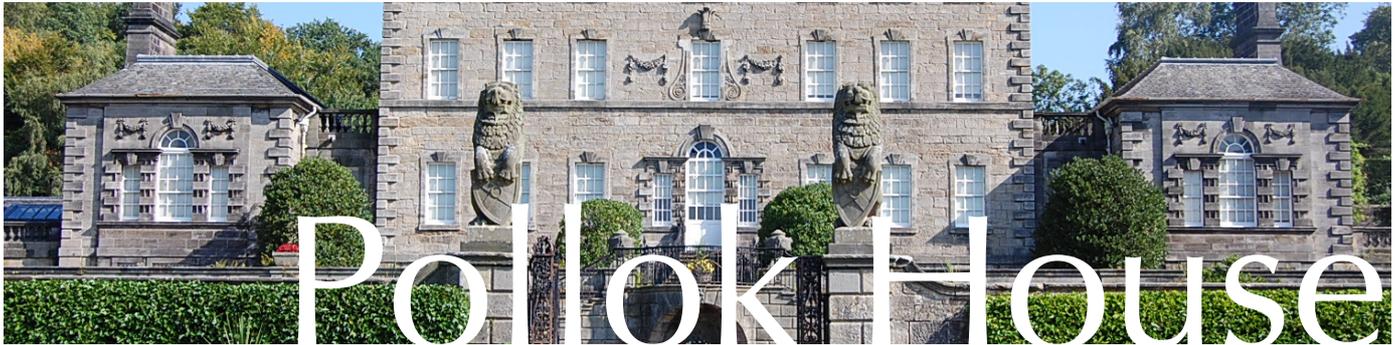


# Pollok House

## Teacher Information



the National Trust  
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a place for learning



### The House

BUILT IN 1752 and set amid attractive formal gardens and extensive parkland in the heart of Glasgow, Pollok House is an elegant country mansion – an excellent example of Georgian and Victorian architecture. Pollok House is also home to probably the finest collection of Spanish art in Great Britain with paintings by Goya, El Greco, Cano, Murillo and Coello among others. The House is also home to paintings by Blake, Mengs, Guthrie and Nicholson.

The National Trust for Scotland took on the responsibility for looking after Pollok House in 1998. Since then the Trust has worked to return the interior of the House to how it looked in 1931 when, in the *Cedar Room* on the first floor, the National Trust for Scotland was founded.

### Education Programmes

LEARNING AND INTERPRETATION plays a large part in the Trust's role in conserving Scotland's built and natural heritage. Within that role Pollok House is an important primary resource that offers cross-curricular learning opportunities for key areas of the 5-14 Curriculum.

Our Teachers' Pack is designed to provide information for teachers; to give a flavour of what we provide for schools here at Pollok House. It contains some worksheets and ideas for classroom work post-visit.

At Pollok House there are three main learning Tours with opportunities for some supplementary activities; there are plans to add to our programme in 2011-2012. Educational activities at Pollok House are designed to fit with the Curriculum for Excellence. The learning outcomes of our Tours and Activities are highlighted in the Teacher Pack where appropriate.

Our main Tours involve the *Victorian experience: Upstairs, Downstairs* where children learn about people in the past, through costume/dressing up and sometimes role-play. The children can see how different life was for working class Victorians compared to the present day.

*Horrible Histories* is designed to give a view on how dangerous it could be to find yourself on the wrong side of certain people in the past. It is set around the Stuarts and the Tudors with links to others of that time. This Tour includes an arts activity where the children are "employed" as court artists who choose one of the characters they meet to create a portrait of. The portraits are created by using mixed media.

*Rugs, Mugs and Bugs* is designed to highlight to the children the importance of conservation. This Tour has a number of short practical activities such as taking light readings, identifying pests, looking for damage and its causes and repairing broken crockery.

### Risk Assessments

- All our programmes have been risk assessed, but we encourage visiting teachers to come, free of charge, and carry out their own risk assessments before bringing their students to the House.

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For more information, visit [www.ntslearning.org.uk](http://www.ntslearning.org.uk)

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### A Site Visit Offers

- education programmes designed for schools; to fit the curriculum (lasting 1.5—2 hours)
- a costume tour of the property (Victorians: upstairs, downstairs only)
- an object handling, art session or conservation workshop.
- an opportunity to study fine art works
- teachers' notes to accompany the education programmes (Teachers' Pack)

### Cost of Visit

- **unescorted tour of property** (*please let us know you are bringing a group at least one day in advance*): Educational Membership of the National Trust for Scotland allows free entry to NTS properties. Non-members pay £1 per child; accompanying adults free.
- **special programmes**: which combine a tour of the house with activities in the education room, cost £1 per child per session for members and £2 per child per session for non-members.

### Planning Your Visit

- **pre-booking** is essential
- **maximum class size**: 33 with a ratio of 1 teacher/adult to 10 pupils
- **access**: there is access for wheelchair users (lift and stair lift) to the two main floors of the house (the family and servants rooms) but not the top floor containing a bedroom and exhibition room
- **refreshments**: bring packed lunches for the park or gardens – wet weather area can be made available in house (booking is essential).
- **shop**: open all year round; please visit in small numbers to avoid overcrowding
- **toilets**: available in the house – disabled toilets available also
- **parking**: available for cars and coaches beside the house

### During Your Visit

- NTS staff will lead the school programme.
- For the programme, your class will be split in two: one half will visit the education room and the other the House. The pupils then swap over.
- Teachers are responsible for their pupils, and for their behaviour.
- Pupils do not need to bring any materials for the school programme.
- They may take photos in the education room and outside (but not within the House).
- Coats and bags can be left next to the education room (on site).

**Getting Here:** To get to Pollok come off M77 at junctions 1 or 2, follow signs for Burrell Collection. There is free parking for cars and coaches beside the house. **Punctuality is essential.**

**On arrival:** please report, with payment and letter of confirmation, to the ticket desk at the front entrance hall

### For More Information Contact:

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For free teacher resources go to the Trust's LEARN website: [www.nts.org.uk/learn/](http://www.nts.org.uk/learn/)

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