

Education Policy

Milton Keynes Heritage Association is committed to continual development and improvement of its educational practice through its planning, monitoring, evaluations and marketing procedure.

BACKGROUND

The Association was established to encourage and develop cooperation and coordination between all members having an interest in heritage in the area centred on the Milton Keynes Unitary Authority (otherwise Milton Keynes Council). Members are admitted from within the area of the Authority, and at the discretion of the Executive Committee from a wider area .

The objects of the Association fall within the following areas: - Heritage Policy, Collecting Policy, Research/recording of history, Publicity, Education, Training, Communication, Activities, Conservation/ display, Raising funds, Investment of monies, Legal requirements, Grants and projects and Commercial activities.

The Constitution of MKHA states in terms of Education that MKHA will explore and undertake educational activities with schools, colleges, universities, community groups, adult learners and association members where this is appropriate to the interests of the Association, of relevance to the community and practicable. Such activities may be undertaken by individual members or as a collaborative project involving two or more members or groups.

PRINCIPLES

Milton Keynes Heritage Association supports the principle that education in the broadest context is an implicit part of its work and is fundamental to spreading awareness and appreciation of all of its work.

Access to skills and understanding through participation in MKHA projects and related training courses can build confidence and strengthen a sense of identity and pride among individuals and communities and provide a force for social development and change.

MKHA's approach to education reflects its core heritage values:

- enabling
- quality
- access
- innovation
- best practice
- social enjoyment
- respect
- evaluation

OBJECTIVE

To explore and develop ways in which the resources and methods of work of MKHA and its members can be used to enrich all sectors of formal and informal education.

STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

To make accessible MKHA archives and assist its members safeguard their archives and use this as a resource for education and involvement of all communities

- Secure funding to catalogue and digitise archives and make it web-accessible
- Use the process as a means of engaging and training volunteers in digitising and archiving skills
- Devise projects that will encourage and enable socially excluded and under-represented communities to tell their stories and add them to the archive

To support, encourage and initiate projects based on the collection and interpretation of primary source materials on a local basis.

- Familiarise teachers with the methods, achievements and opportunities of heritage work with MKHA using the MKHA and members website and targeted marketing of relevant projects
- Offer advice, training and support to schools and other educational institutions wishing to devise their own projects
- Respond to requests from schools and other educational institutions wishing to undertake projects involving the MKHA as partners
- Offer opportunities for partnership and participation to schools and other educational institutions in large-scale cross-community projects
- In due course to seek the appointment of an Administrator to also act as an Education/Outreach Officer

To support, encourage and initiate projects based on the interpretation of primary source materials on a regional and national basis.

- Familiarise Museum and Heritage Officers, teachers and other relevant personnel with the methods, achievements and opportunities of work with MKHA through marketing leaflets, web pages, journal articles and other publicity
- To disseminate the techniques of MKHA as widely as possible to those who are using the life of their community to inspire creative heritage activities

To develop a facility to encourage and assist local individuals and groups to develop creativity and self-expression through heritage

- To promote use of our IT facilities that can be used in schools, youth clubs and similar organisations and members of rural communities by MKHA members
- Explore and develop the potential for new technologies in MKHA projects and training courses
- Work particularly with the Education, Library and Museum services to involve school children, students and members of the community to add to the heritage archive
- Forge partnerships with other organisations in Milton Keynes and beyond to fully exploit heritage

To promote MKHA as a vehicle in providing relevant job skills training, stimulating creativity and enriching community life

- Devise and run training courses for those with an interest in heritage

To produce and market teaching materials, training programmes and interpretative initiatives based on the primary source materials in local heritage archives

- Recruit local teachers to act as advisers on the development of teaching materials
- Assemble, test, publish and market teaching packs and e-learning materials based on primary source materials in the archive and relevant to National Curriculum
- Work with artists to explore the creative potential of archive material for creative interpretation in the National Curriculum
- Develop partnerships with local arts and heritage organisations to facilitate this strategy

Review

The Executive Committee shall regularly monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of this policy in

achieving the stated aims. This process shall be undertaken two yearly or sooner and shall aim to seek the views of organisations representing the interests of those groups referred to in this policy.

This is the current copy of this policy

Name:

Signature:

Position:

Agreed at the AGM on 28 September 2023 v2 review NL Dec 25