

Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Museum

Education Policy

1. Mission Statement of the Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Museum

Our vision is to

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- To become a nationally accredited independent museum
- To maintain the Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Museum as a working museum where possible dedicated to the Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Company Limited between 1860 and 1986.
- To provide suitable facilities to demonstrate restoration and maintenance of the collection.
- To be open to the public for the enjoyment, benefit and education of the community.

Our challenge is to become more commercially oriented organisation in order to achieve the vision.

2. Education Mission Statement

To promote widely and encourage life-long interest, understanding and enjoyment of the heritage and environment of railways, in particular the former Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Company Limited, its associated companies, organisations, predecessor and successors, through the educational and vocational use of the collections and associated information held by the Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Museum and other organisations.

3. Education Policy

- to ensure that access to education is provided to as many people as possible in an environment where safety is paramount
- to set out the exhibits in the most appropriate ways with clear interpretation to encourage the interest of as many people as possible
- to create a centre of excellence for education in an industrial museum setting and to support co-operation with other museums
- to work in partnership with Education Authorities and other educational institutions to encourage interest and learning and promote work experience
- to be aware of developments in the world of education and to respond to them in an appropriate matter
- to encourage young people to develop their skills in a specially designed young volunteer's programme
- to ensure that the educational function is considered in all decisions affecting the Museum and that the Education Policy is reviewed every five years
- to ensure that the Museum's action plans include for the provision of an affective structure and adequate resources to meet its educational targets

- to ensure that all staff (including volunteers) are aware of and sympathetic to the educational role of the Museum and that full provision is made for the development and training of those staff and volunteers working in an educational role for the Museum
- to set specific and measurable educational objectives to be evaluated annually

4. Programme of Services

A comprehensive educational programme for people of all ages and with a wide range of railway knowledge is to be offered both at the Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Museum and at external venues.

- National Curriculum targeted programmes for schools
- encouragement and practical help in the learning of science and engineering
- structured visits and activities for children and family groups
- programme of railway related activities for young people in schools and further education including the Museum's young volunteers
- adult education and public lecture programmes and workshops
- guided tours on both formal and informal bases
- opportunities for work experience and work shadowing
- support to other museums and local societies
- assistance to specialist researchers

5. Key Groups

The Policy requires the educational programmes to be as inclusive as possible and to set targets to evaluate the success of this objective.

- Children aged 5 to 16
- Students opting to study science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics (STEAM)
- Students in tertiary education
- Students considering training and employment in engineering
- Adult learners
- People with disabilities
- Researchers
- School parties

6. In Collaboration with...

- National Wagon Preservation Group (NWPG)
- Gloucestershire Archives

The Education Policy was approved by the GRC&W Museum Board in September 2020. The policy will be monitored and reviewed every five years.