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Quarry Bank

**Essential information pack
for educational groups**



Welcome to Quarry Bank...

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Thank you for considering booking an educational visit to Quarry Bank.

Quarry Bank situated in Styal, Cheshire is one of Britain's greatest industrial heritage sites, set in picturesque gardens and countryside.

With strong curriculum ties, Quarry Bank offers a variety of experiences from engaging tours to bug hunts, immersing learners in history and nature.

Find out more about how an educational trip to Quarry Bank can support your students learning.

For KS1/KS2, we recommend the Mill Experience and Apprentice House tour as a full day experience.

For KS3/4, we offer the Mill Experience, Apprentice House tour and Styal Village tour as a full day experience.

Indoor Learning Offer	Pages 3-4
Outdoor Learning Offer	Page 5
Essential Information	Pages 6-8
Pricing	Page 9

Email: Quarry.Learning@nationaltrust.org.uk

Phone: 0162 544 5850



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Indoor Learning Offer

Mill Experience

The Mill is a unique resource: offering experiential learning, cross curricular opportunities and an inspiring starting point or consolidation experience for all key stages.

For KS1/2: A facilitated mill tour enables schools to experience the working machines, and through a range of interactive activities build an understanding of the working conditions.

Who worked at the mill? What were the dangers of working in a mill? What jobs did the child apprentice workers do? What toys did the mill children play with?

For KS3/4: Explore the mill with our experienced guides to uncover it's stories and learn how archives are pieced together to examine the past.

Using primary and secondary sources you will gain an understand of the worker's roles and the dangers of working here, as well as the societal change which happened in this period.

Watch demonstrations of the spinning mule and weaving looms in action and learn how power changed from water, to steam, to electric to keep production profitable.





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Indoor Learning Offer

Apprentice House and Styal Village

The Apprentice House tour is a unique opportunity to discover some of the real Quarry Bank apprentices and explore their lives away from the Mill.

KS1/2: Meet the foreboding superintendents and experience the living conditions of the apprentices. Delivered by our costumed storytellers, students will take part in an immersive, character-led tour to feel, hear and experience the food, sleeping conditions, chores and free time of the apprentices.

KS3/4: Experience the harsh life of an apprentice. Students will be introduced to real apprentices who lived and died here, and gain an understanding of how archives are used to tell their stories. Visit the hall, dormitories and kitchen and find out about their food, free time and education.

Styal Village | KS3/4 only: Explore why Styal village was built and how it expanded from a small collection of farm buildings, to the village you still see today. What were living conditions like here two hundred years ago?



Outdoor Learning Offer

Our outdoor learning workshops are available for KS1/2

Discovering the River Bollin (90 minutes): A practical fieldwork session investigating river characteristics, flow and identifying different species inhabiting our local waters by river/pond dipping. Investigate and understand the effects of erosion and deposition and how it changes the environment.

Map Challenge (90 minutes): Explore Quarry Bank's estate and learn how to read maps through engaging activities. Learn how to recognise landscapes on different maps, use a compass and understand grid references in this child-led interactive session.

Minibeasts & Habitats (90 minutes): Explore a variety of micro-habitats both on land and in the water, at our purpose built outdoor learning hub. Students will collect scientific data, learn how to identify and categorise species, understand how they have adapted to their environment and how we can help look after them.





Essential Information

Booking

Term Dates: We are open for visits throughout the academic year and follow Cheshire East term times.

We have restricted availability from October half term though to February half term. Outdoor Learning is not available in the winter months.

Timings: Our guided school offer runs from 10.00am to 2.30pm. **Please arrive at 9.45am** and contact us if these times are not possible, to discuss your options.

Capacity: Our experiences are delivered to groups of 30 students per session and we can only accommodate a limited numbers of classes per day.

We have a capacity of 90 students per day in Summer months, 120 students in Winter months. Larger groups may need to book additional

Education Group Access Pass (EGAP): The Education Group Access Pass (formerly known as Education Group Membership) is specially designed to encourage access to National Trust places for groups whose students or members are in full-time or early years education.

The pass allows you discounted entry to a pre-booked visit to Quarry Bank alongside other National Trust sites.

The current subscription fees are:

Education Group Access Pass category	Rate (inclusive of VAT)
Home educating family	£63.00
Not-for-profit education group	£63.00
For-profit education group	£189.00

More details can be found here: [Education Group Access Pass | Join | National Trust](#)



Essential Information

Confirmation and before your visit

What you can expect from us: After you send in your booking form, we will send you an email confirming your date of visit and your group details, as well as information on hazards and our cancellation policy. We will send you a reminder email two weeks prior to your visit.

What we expect from you: Read through your confirmation email thoroughly and let us know if you need to make any amends. Please ensure you have read our policy on adult: pupil ratios carefully and plan accordingly.

Pre-visit: We encourage all teachers to make a free preliminary visit to the site. Please email quarry.learning@nationaltrust.org.uk to arrange this.

On the day

Property Address: Quarry Bank, Styal Road, Wilmslow, SK9 4HP
(What3Words: glue goats member)

Coaches: Please instruct coaches to park in our coach bays at **9.45am**.

Arrivals via train: Styal station (approx.15-minute walk), please assemble at the coach bays to meet your guides.

Supervision: There is no charge for supervising adults and it is important that you bring sufficient adults to ensure your group is safe at all times.

To meet National Trust guidelines, you **must** bring a ratio of at least 2:15 (4 adults per class) for primary and 1:15 (2 adults per class) for secondary visits. Any 1:1 supervision is in addition to this.

We will confirm the number of adults your group requires in your booking confirmation.

The supervising adults from your organisation are responsible for the students and their behaviour at all times, including lunchtime, and in the shop. Students of any age should not be left unattended.



Essential Information

On the day

Facilities – Lunchrooms are available for the storage of bags during the day and for 45 minute lunch slots. During the summer months, you are welcome to picnic outside and tarpaulins are available to borrow. Please note that the lunchrooms are not locked and we cannot take any responsibility for missing goods.

Shop—Students are very welcome in the shop with adult supervision. Please let us know if you wish to visit the shop.

Goody Bags – If you are interested in purchasing a goody bag instead of visiting the shop, please do let us know and we can send you an order form.

Cafe - The Weaving Shed Restaurant is open every day to the general public selling hot food, sandwiches, cakes and drinks to eat in or take-away. Please let us know if a large proportion of your group is likely to be using the restaurant ahead of your visit.

Access Requirements— We are keen to ensure that the site is accessible to all. Please do let us know if a member of your group has access requirements on your booking form. The Mill is wheelchair accessible with use of the lift. Please be aware that large electric wheelchairs cannot be used in the Mill. We also have manual wheelchairs available to borrow. Machinery in the Mill may be noisy so ear defenders are available to borrow. The Apprentice House does not have a lift so only the ground floor can only be accessed by wheelchair users. We offer a video recording of the tour on a tablet to ensure the experience can be enjoyed by everyone.

**Please send any complete booking request forms to
Quarry.Learning@nationaltrust.org.uk**

Our Schools Booking Administrator works Mon-Wed in term time only

Quarry Learning phone number is 0162 544 5850 but please note that we cannot take bookings over the phone



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Pricing

Valid 1 September 2026 - 31 August 2027

Without EGAP

Half day– One experience–£8.00 per pupil

Mill, Apprentice House or Outdoor Learning session

Full day– Two experiences–£11.00 per pupil

Mill & Apprentice House,

Mill & Outdoor Learning session,

Apprentice House and Outdoor Learning session

With EGAP

Half day– One experience

Mill entry | Free

Outdoor Learning session | £6.00

Full day– Two experiences– £8.00 per pupil

Mill + Apprentice House

Two outdoor workshops

Please see EGAP (Education Group Access Pass) information on Page 6

UK schools – Payment is normally by invoice after your visit–if you need to pay on the day please let us know in advance. If you need to raise a purchase order as part of the invoicing process, please ensure we receive full details before your visit. Overseas groups must pay at the Welcome Building on the day of the visit unless booking through an agent

