MILTON KEYNES MUSEUM

EDUCATION OFFICER JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Education Officer

Organisation: Milton Keynes Museum

Salary: £30,000 per annum

Hours: 37.5 hours to include evenings and weekends as required to fulfil the role

Reports to: Deputy Museum Director

Responsible for: Volunteer Education team

Location: Milton Keynes Museum, Wolverton, Milton Keynes

Background

Our Museum was started by local people, who lived in the area and were concerned that the arrival of a New City of 250,000 people would threaten to eradicate their heritage. For more than 30 years, the story of their lives was told in the Museum's Victorian buildings. Now a greater story can be told - that of the building and populating of the New City and of the rich archaeology uncovered before development began. This is being revealed in two new purpose-built galleries.

The Museum is unlike any other – it is immersive and interactive – a 'please touch', rather than a 'don't touch' place; a 'let's talk', rather than a "read what you can' venue. This needs much more input from volunteers. It is not our aim to be like every other museum.

This post offers a unique opportunity to be at the forefront of developing the scope and reach of our education offer of developing schemes that match the needs of all branches of education and making a difference at this critical time.

The Museum's long-term vision is:

To create a unique, welcoming and inspirational museum that captures the passion and spirit of the inhabitants of Milton Keynes; a museum that plays an active role in the lives of the city today and in the future; a museum that is a centre of excellence to all visitors and scholars. A museum that embraces change with ambitious future plans.

The aims are:

- To be an inspirational local history museum.
- To attract as wide an audience as possible, both actual and virtual, providing visitors with a unique experience which is enjoyable and educational.
- To provide learning opportunities and a full programme of educational services for the benefit of individuals and groups of all ages, involving audiences of diverse cultural, social and economic backgrounds.
- To strive to become a leading, sustainable, volunteer-run museum.

Role Overview

We are seeking to recruit an enthusiastic and organised person with a track record of development and delivery of inspiring education programmes, working with a range of subject matter, audiences and approaches.

Education is at the heart of the museum's work, and an active, 'hands-on' approach has become key, overseen by an established volunteer education team. The Education Officer will be responsible for working with this team to deliver a comprehensive and valued education and outreach programme, help strengthen the existing provision and launching new initiatives to include the New City and Ancient Gallery, work with further and higher education providers and assist, where necessary with the Museum's internal training programme.

While the Schools Programme is the priority for the Education Officer and is likely to demand most time and continued involvement, the post will also include redeveloping the School Loans Service which allows schools to borrow themed boxes and individual items to enhance classroom learning. The Education Officer would also be responsible for developing and improving the Museum's informal learning offer to make local heritage more accessible to our family audiences.

The post would suit a person with an innovative and creative approach to museum education, who would enjoy the challenge of developing formal and informal learning programmes.