



# Epworth Old Rectory

SCHOOL  
LEARNING PROGRAMME

2025







# Epworth Old Rectory

**T**he impressive Grade 1 listed house was the childhood home of John and Charles Wesley. Built in 1709, Epworth Old Rectory will transport you back in time to the formative years of these pioneering evangelists. Join us for a tour of the house, where you can learn about the different characters who made up the Wesley family. Meet “The Mother of Methodism” and the Wesley children – all ten of them!





**John Wesley**  
1703-1791



# Explore, learn & engage: Epworth old rectory's new educational programme.



**T**he team at Epworth Old Rectory are excited to bring you our new learning programme available from September 2025. Engaging with cultural and heritage activities enhances children's learning and here at the Rectory allows them to be fully immersed in multisensory experiences.

Located in the historic market town of Epworth the Rectory offers a unique learning environment. Traditionally the story of the Wesley family is told but there is so much more to the site which can be explored through our exciting school's programme.

The Granary is available for lunch. Our outreach programme can be delivered in your school.

Each of our workshops offer children an immersive and hands on experience to complement what they have learnt in class. Workshops are designed to meet National Curriculum requirements.

Workshops can be adapted to meet the needs of your pupils.

Workshops are delivered by DBS checked members of staff.

**The Old Rectory**  
provides a unique  
& enriching learning  
atmosphere.



# Nature explorers:

## Engaging workshops in the heart of the rectory grounds.



**W**orking in the beautiful grounds of the Rectory we offer three half-day workshops each linking to the science curriculum. Multiple workshops can be booked for a full day of activities.

**Insect investigators** Using a range of scientific equipment children will collect and observe a variety of insects found in different areas of the Rectory grounds. Children will learn about the importance of protecting and taking care of the grounds where these creatures live and what they need to survive.

**Habitat Hunters** Exploring the grounds children will investigate micro habitats and consider what animals call it their home, how the habitat changes with the seasons and what impact this has on the animals. Working in groups children will then have the opportunity to create their own habitat for a chosen creature.

**Powerful Plants** Children will be working in and around the Physic Garden which is inspired by John Wesley's book 'Primitive Physic'. Working through a series of investigations and experiments children will learn how plants grow, what conditions are required for different plants, record observations and report their findings to the rest of the group.





# Unearthing the past:

## Exploring the rich history of the Isle of Axholme.



**T**he Isle of Axholme has a fascinating history. Several important archaeological finds have been unearthed in the area, a Neolithic Jadite Axe found in Wroot, a Roman 'bog body' found in Amcotts and a late Anglo-Saxon buckle found in the grounds of the Rectory are just a few.

The history workshop activities take place both inside and outside, and children need to be dressed appropriately for the weather. We recommend sturdy footwear for outdoor exploration and comfortable clothing suitable for movement. Please also ensure they bring a waterproof jacket and a hat or sunscreen, depending on the season, to stay comfortable throughout the day.



## **PORTAL TO THE PAST**

How did Prehistoric people live in the area all those years ago? In this immersive workshop children will step back in time and learn how our ancestors lived over 2000 years ago. Children will examine real and replica objects and discover how these objects were used in daily life and how they changed over time. Using our secure outdoor area the children will learn a variety of techniques used in daily life to survive.

## **ROMAN**

Who were the Roman people living in the Isle? What evidence have they left behind and how was their way of living different to what had come before? Investigating real and replica objects and engaging with several hands-on activities children will be immersed in the world of the Romans.

## **ANGLO-SAXON & VIKING INVASION**

What evidence is there that these people lived here in the Isle of Axholme? Why did they come here? What was daily life like for them? Children will handle real and replica objects and take part in a variety of activities to help answer these questions.

**A half day workshop, using the indoor elements of the above workshops, can be delivered at your school. Please enquire for further information.**

## **SUSANNA'S COVERLET**

This art-based workshop is inspired by a coverlet Susanna Wesley made between 1710 and 1735. Children will engage all the senses as they tour the house and grounds and get inspiration from what they see, hear, smell and touch to help them produce their own coverlet using a variety of media. Children will work in groups and share their ideas to create a masterpiece which they can take back to school.



## WONDERFUL WESLEYS

This full day workshop introduces children to the Wesley family. Children will learn about members of the family and will take part in four activities including working in the Physic Garden, learning in Susanna's kitchen classroom, a tour of the house and handling 18th century objects similar to those used by the Wesley family.

## WALKING WITH THE WESLEYS

Walking around Epworth town centre, children will visit the areas closely associated with the Wesley family. On returning to the Old Rectory children will engage in a number of activities. This workshop links to the KS2 RE curriculum and explores how John Wesley brought God's message to people, the hostility he encountered and how he overcame it. This workshop can be tailored to a half day visit with just the walk or a full day to include the walk and activities at the Rectory.

## ASSEMBLIES/COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

We are available to deliver a one off assembly or a series of assemblies which can be themed inline with your school vision.

## LOANS BOXES

We have loans boxes available to complement several of our workshops: Portal to the Past, Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings and the Wesley's. Boxes are available for half a term. For more information please contact the Outreach, Learning and Engagement Manager.



# Useful information



## Access

Currently the grounds are accessible for wheelchairs, there are two accessible toilets, and parking can be arranged close to the house. The shop is also accessible. There is a ramp to the front door of the Old Rectory and the ground floor is accessible, though there are some small changes of level. Unfortunately the first and second floors of the house are not wheelchair accessible. Guide dogs are welcome.

- ▶ We strongly recommend a free teacher pre-visit for every school booking.
- ▶ Full-day workshops are from 10am to 2:30pm.
- ▶ Half-day workshops are from 10am to 12pm
- ▶ We advise schools to arrive at 9:45 for a prompt 10am start.
- ▶ Coaches can pull into the car park and are welcome to stay on site.

## Contact

Epworth Old Rectory,  
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**Call: 01427 872268**

For any enquiries or bookings please email the Outreach, Learning and Engagement Manager at:

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