

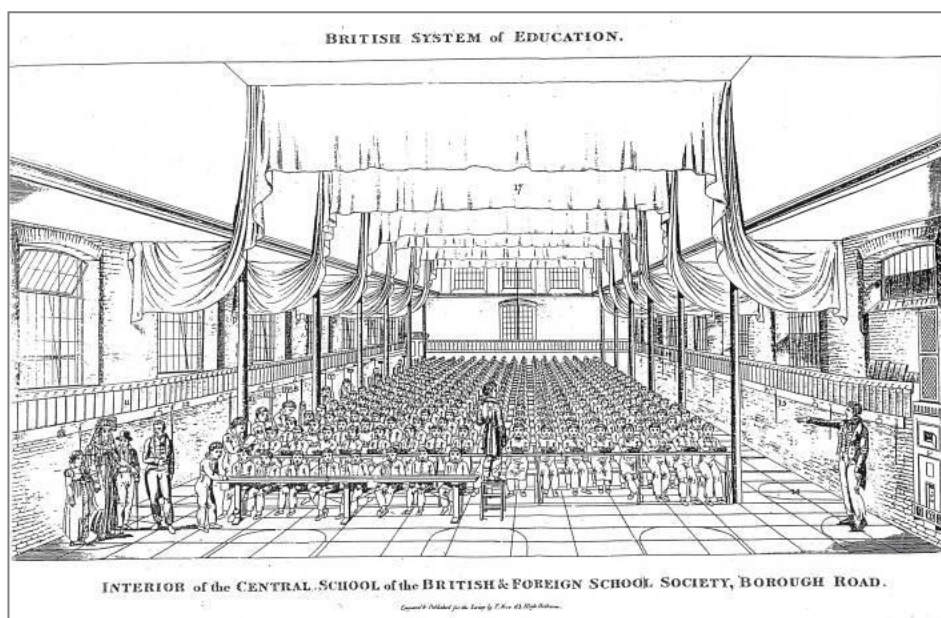
Explore 200 years of School days and Childhood



Bring your group to the museum where learning comes to life

About the British Schools Museum and what you can experience during your visit.

- In 1810, William Wilshere opened a school for the children of the 'labouring poor' in Hitchin. His inspiration was the 'Poor Child's Friend, Joseph Lancaster, who had developed the "monitorial system" of teaching.
- Dating back to 1837, The British Schools Museum has the only remaining example of a Monitorial Schoolroom in the world. (Illustrated below)
- Also housed within the museum are other period classrooms including a Gallery Classroom, pictured above where you can experience a Victorian lesson taught by one of our experienced School "Ma'ams"
- As an alternative to the Victorian lesson we offer an illustrated talk about Joseph Lancaster and the Hitchin British Schools. Understand the history of our site, how it reflects the development of elementary education across the country, before seeing for yourself with one of our experienced guides.
- Explore the beautifully-restored Victorian Headmasters House, Exhibition Gallery and Discovery room.
- The museum shop and café will be open during your visit and we can offer additional catering options of either a buffet lunch or Victorian tea. Please ask us for catering charges.





Further information and Booking your Group visit

- **How much will it cost?**

£8.50 per person, which includes light refreshments (tea/coffee etc and biscuits). Additional catering options on request. There is a deposit of £85 for the minimum size of group (10) payable 8 weeks before your visit (this may increase if you have if you have chosen an additional catering option). Please keep us informed of expected numbers, or any changes to the plans for your day.

- **Accessibility**

Regrettably the Gallery Classroom and Master's House are currently not accessible by wheelchair. Special arrangements can be made for groups with walking difficulties, or with wheelchairs. Please talk with us about your needs. A video tour of the Headmasters House is available.

- **Parking & Access**

Victorian schools did not of course have car parks. Limited on-site parking is available by prior arrangement for those with mobility difficulties. Coaches can drop off and pick up at the Museum gates.

- **How many are needed for a Group Visit?**

Groups should consist of a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 50. The Gallery Classroom seats 25 adults, so if there are more than 25 in your group we will divide you into two 'classes'.

- **When can you visit with your Group?**

We are happy to arrange group visits on any day of the week, including weekends, and weekday evenings.

- **Book your visit today**

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