Learning for Schools and Colleges

World’s largest collection of working historic computers – 1940 to the present

Get a school discount

RECOMMEND A FRIEND
TNMOC.ORG/LEARN
TNMOC’s collections

Conserve I Educate I Engage

The collections at The National Museum of Computing enable your students to experience key concepts in computing first hand. We are proud to showcase world-famous codebreaking machines: the Bombe, Heath Robinson and Colossus. These machines sowed the seeds for electronic computing which revolutionised the world in which we live.

The WITCH is the world’s oldest working electronic computer. It demonstrates the Fetch-Decode-Execute cycle, conditional branching and Von Neumann architecture. Our Large Systems Gallery reveals developments in processing and storage technologies. Students will see first-hand how computer technology has evolved, becoming faster, cheaper and more efficient.

- tnmoc.org/learn
- education@tnmoc.org
- 01908 374708
BIG NUMBERS, GREAT IDEAS: MATHS INVESTIGATION DAY

TIME SLOTS  ■ 10:00–14:00  ■ 10:30–14:30  ■ 11:00–15:00
Term-time only

Students will develop their mathematical knowledge in historical and modern real world contexts. The day includes a 30-minute handling session plus a break for lunch.

GUIDED TOURS – MATHS AND THE MACHINE

Explore mathematical concepts through our artefacts: sorting and storing data, statistical analysis, probability, using number lines and tables, counting in decimal and binary, exponential growth and much more.

CHOOSE TWO OPTIONS

A  Beating Impossible Odds  Investigate how cryptographers used the Bombe to decipher the Enigma cipher and how this links to cyber security and ‘big data’

B  Statistical Attack  Investigate the hacking of the Lorenz cipher using patterns, statistics and probability

C  Power of Primes  An investigation into the maths of cryptography

Number of students
Maximum of 50 per day.

Cost
£12 per student (min. booking fee £168 for groups with fewer than 14 students).

With every ten students, one adult can come free of charge.

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COMPUTER SCIENCE FULL DAY VISIT (4 HOURS)

TIME SLOTS ■ 10:00–14:00 ■ 10:30–14:30 ■ 11:00–15:00

Term-time only

For our full-day visit you will have a 30-minute introductory talk and handling session plus a break for lunch.

You have the option to choose one of three themed guided tours (90 minutes) and two hands-on activity workshops (lasting 45 minutes each).

GUIDED TOURS – CHOOSE ONE

A Codebreaking Machines  World-famous wartime codebreaking machines in action

B Digital Revolution  From the first-generation computers to present innovation

C Valve to Chip  A comprehensive history of electronic computing

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Number of students
Maximum of 50 per day.

Cost
£12 per student (min. booking fee £168 for groups with fewer than 14 students).

With every ten students, one adult can come free of charge.

Hands-on Workshops – Choose one from each list

List 1

A Program in BBC Basic
   Snake Game – using our vintage BBC micros

B Program in BBC Basic
   Rocket Trajectory – using our vintage BBC micros

C Back to Basics
   Explore Assembly language (machine) code

List 2

D Virtual Block H
   Using Cospaces – students will recreate Block H of the 1940s

E The Power of Primes
   An investigation into the maths of cryptography

F Turing Test
   Artificial intelligence and chat-bots

"My students got a great deal out of the talks and seeing computer history first-hand. Even on the way back ... the students were making links to what they have been taught and asking really thoughtful questions." Teacher feedback

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AFTERNOON VISITS

We offer shorter visits for educational groups who may wish to combine a visit to us with other sites nearby. These visits are available after 3pm only. Choose one tour (80 mins) and one workshop (40 mins).

GUIDED TOUR – CHOOSE ONE

A Codebreaking Machines World-famous wartime codebreaking machines in action
B Digital Revolution From the first-generation computers to present innovation
C Early Electronic Computing Codebreaking machines and first-generation computers

HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS – CHOOSE ONE

A Program in BBC Basic Snake Game – using our vintage BBC micros
B Virtual Block H Using Cospaces students will recreate Block H from 1940s
C Back to Basics Explore Assembly language (machine) code
D Turing Test Artificial intelligence and chat-bots
E The Power of Primes An investigation into the maths of cryptography

Number of students
Maximum of 50 per day.

Cost
£8 per student (min. booking fee £136 for groups with fewer than 16 students).

With every ten students, one adult can come free of charge.

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MISSION:STEM

For educational groups wishing to have a less structured experience, we offer Mission:STEM visits. The visit includes an explorer guide which encourages students to engage with the exhibits to solve a mystery. It is aimed at students aged 8-15. The cost includes a copy of the guide for each participant and a facilitator to support your group for two hours.

Number of students  Maximum of 50 per day.

Cost  £8 per student, including explorer guide (min. booking fee £136 for groups with fewer than 14 students). With every ten students, one adult can come free of charge.

ADDITIONAL NEEDS

We welcome groups with diverse abilities to our museum including gifted and talented students with physical and learning support needs. Our facilities are all at ground level giving wheelchair access. Our team has a wide range of knowledge and experience of supporting people with autism, visual impairments, and deafness and hearing impairments. We can supply sensory maps and ear defenders.

Staff supporting students with additional needs are not charged. Please let us know about your students’ requirements on booking.
LOCATION
The National Museum of Computing, Block H, Bletchley Park, Sherwood Drive, Bletchley, Bucks.

Site map
By road: Follow the brown signs to Bletchley Park. To get to us you will need to go through the barriers and pass the Bletchley Park’s visitor centre (Block C) on your left. Follow the road up the hill, cross over the mini roundabout. Block H is in front of you.

By train: Euston to Bletchley 37 mins, Birmingham to Bletchley 85 mins. Then approx 8 minutes’ walk to National Museum of Computing.

Once a booking has been made, teachers are welcome to come on a free visit in order to plan their trip. Please contact education@tnmoc.org

Find us

©The National Museum of Computing is the operating name of CodesandCiphers Heritage Trust, charity number 1109874.