

## International Bomber Command Centre Teacher Information

**We look forward to welcoming you to the International Bomber Command Centre. This booklet has a little more information, to help you make the most of your visit, please do not hesitate to contact the learning team if you have any further questions or queries.**



The International Bomber Command Centre (IBCC) has been created to provide a world-class facility to serve as a point for recognition, remembrance and reconciliation for Bomber Command.

### **Your Visit**

Visits take place Tuesday-Friday. Fully facilitated visits include a tour of the Exhibition, Spire and Walls of Names, as well as workshop with the Learning Officer. This takes place between 10am-2pm with a 45 to 50 minutes break for lunch. The Learning Officers will provide you with a timetable for your visit.

A self-guided visit includes access to The Spire and Exhibition, timings to be discussed with the Learning Officer.

### **Costing**

Fully Facilitated visits are priced at £7 a head, self-Guided visits are priced at £4 a head. There is a cap of 60 pupils per day for facilitated visits and 30 pupils per day for self-guided visits. All staff are free for school groups.

We will invoice you for payment after your visit.

### **Practical Information**

There is space inside the IBCC to use as a lunchroom, weather permitting your group is also welcome to eat outside and play in the grounds. We kindly request that yoghurts are not consumed in the lunchroom.

We can provide lunches, email [learning@internationalbcc.co.uk](mailto:learning@internationalbcc.co.uk) for more info.

Parts of the visit will take place outside at The Spire and Walls of Names. Please ensure your group are dressed appropriately. We advise sensible shoes, as well as sun hats and sun cream in summer and warm clothing in winter.

### **Transport**

All groups will be met by the Learning Officer, please report to reception on arrival.

COACH: coaches can drop off students directly outside the IBCC and park in the car park. There is some funding towards transport



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costs available through Lincolnshire County Council's Aviation Learning team. Please see their website, [www.investigatelearning.com](http://www.investigatelearning.com) for more information.

If you think you might be running late on the day, please contact the IBCC on **01522 514755**.

### Before you visit

- You are welcome to come for a free visit before you bring your school. To arrange this please contact [learning@internationalbcc.co.uk](mailto:learning@internationalbcc.co.uk).
- The centre is fully accessible for wheelchair users. The learning team is available to discuss all access and SEN needs to make your visit run as smoothly as possible.

### During the visit

- You are welcome to take photos in all areas of the IBCC during your visit, filming of the workshop is not permitted.
- **Please be aware our centre is a relatively small space and open to the public, we kindly ask that your students are supervised at all times and do not run or shout when they are anywhere onsite.**
- Your school can visit the shop, let the learning team know in advance so we can schedule this into your visit.

### Post visit

- There are post visit activities available on request, email [learning@internationalbcc.co.uk](mailto:learning@internationalbcc.co.uk).
- We would love to hear how your visit went, please fill in one of our surveys or let the learning team know via email.

### COVID-19 Procedures

- During the current pandemic we have made a few changes on site for the safety of our visitors and staff. You can find out about our Covid-19

measures here <https://internationalbcc.co.uk/your-visit-events/covid-plans/>.

- If you are planning to bring your class here on a self-facilitated trip, it is imperative you contact the Learning Officer to advise us on how many pupils and staff you intend bringing, as we are monitoring numbers on site. You can email [learning@internationalbcc.co.uk](mailto:learning@internationalbcc.co.uk) or call **01522 514755**.
- All visitors over the age of 11 will be required to wear a facemask in all inside areas during your visit. The teachers are responsible for making sure children stick to social distancing guidelines and use the complementary hand sanitiser.
- We have additional cleaning in place for the exhibition.
- Children will be taken to wash their hands on arrival.
- Please do not bring children to the centre who are feeling unwell.



## Pre-Visit Activities

Before you bring your class to the IBCC, you may want to prepare your pupils using some of these activity/discussion ideas. More information about Bomber Command in WW2 can be found on our website and on our IBCC fact sheet.

### Introduction:

What is an Interpretation Centre? Has anyone been to one before? Why are we visiting the IBCC? What are we going to see at the IBCC? How can we find out? How should we behave in a Memorial site?

Key Vocabulary that might be useful for your visit:

Royal Air Force Blitz - Second World War - Air raid - Bomber Command - Aircraft - Remembrance – Reconciliation – Duty – Courage – Bravery - Innocence - Fear - Morale – Volunteers – Nations – Mascots

### Class Activity- Investigative Journalists

Explain to the class that they have been commissioned to write an article about Bomber Command during the Second World War for a local magazine. They can begin researching in the classroom and continue it during their visit to the centre. See writing prompts below.

### Writing prompts:

- What was Bomber Command? What was their role during the Second World War?
- How many people served in Bomber Command and what were the different roles for women and men?
- Who was in charge of Bomber Command? Why did people from different countries serve in Bomber Command?
- Why was the reputation of Bomber Command different after the War?

### Class Activity- Lancaster Crew

Bomber Command was unique in allowing their men to pick their own crews. For a Lancaster Bomber, a 7 Man crew was needed with each man having their own special role. (Descriptions of the roles can be found on the IBCC fact sheet)

Each member of the crew wore a badge on their uniform which highlighted their role within the crew. These badges were called Brevets.

Ask the class to get into groups of seven, in groups allow them to assign roles and design their own team brevets which they can make into badges to wear.

You can photocopy our Brevet Templates for your class to cut out and colour or ask them to design their own from scratch. These can then be glued onto card and made into badges, attached with a safety pin and a bit of tape on the back of the card.



## Post Visit Activity Ideas

### Bomber Command

Bomber Boys will have had the opportunity to write and send letters home. How do think the content of these letters would have compared according to the nationality of the boys themselves?

Use your own imagination to write a letter back to your family in a different country.

Using current regional and national newspapers, cut and paste words and phrases to make possible newspaper headlines to describe Bomber Command during WW2.

Find out what you can about the Avro Lancaster Bomber. Why do you think The Spire reflects the wing-span of the bomber? Design a poster that highlights the magnificence of The Spire and the Avro Lancaster Bomber.

### Home Front

Have your whole class work together to create a wartime newspaper- articles about influx of airmen to Lincolnshire, evacuees, rationing, etc.

Students could act out a meeting between country children and evacuees (townies), with other roles for local adults such as host-parent, farmer and so on.



Use the situation to explore children's reactions. What do the country children think of the new arrivals - and vice versa?

Arrange a cookery class in school where students can make some genuine wartime food. Download our carrot biscuits recipe!

### Remembrance

The IBCC is the only place in the world where all these losses are commemorated. What message do you think this gives to families and friends associated with Bomber Command and how does it make them feel? Write a short poem about this.

There are almost 58,000 men and women named on this monument. They were of various ranks but only names are listed. Why do you think this is the case? Explore other lists of names on memorials and compare these to the ones at the IBCC. Are there any names that stand out to you? Why? The CWGC website is a good starting point for this: <https://www.cwgc.org/>

You could design your own war memorial to reflect your thoughts on remembrance and its relevance today. Who will you commemorate and where will your memorial be located, and why?

What do you think of the poppy as symbol of remembrance? If you could design your own symbol of remembrance what would you choose and why?

