**Kensington Palace Visual Story Support Notes**

**Who are the slides for?**

The slides in the Visual Story and the Useful Resources PowerPoint are for teachers to use with their students and assisting adults to help them prepare for their visit to Kensington Palace. They highlight some of the key aspects of the Palace.

**How will the slides support my students’ understanding of the palace?**

Each slide has a different focus or learning point, to help your students understand a particular aspect of the historical site. These points include:

-introducing them to some of the staff they will meet during their visit to the palace

-learning about the key people who lived at the palace and their stories

-familiarising them with some of the spaces or rooms they will visit

- highlighting how they may feel or what it may be like moving around the palace, e.g. it is busy

-flagging up themes which you may like to investigate in more detail either before or after the visit

 -highlighting some specials objects which they can look out for during their visit

-encouraging students to view the palace in a particular way or to look out for particular features.

The Visual Story Support Notes correspond with the Visual Stories slides and give you contextual information which you may wish to use with your students.

1. **Header and title.**

One of the learning aims of the session is for the students to feel comfortable in the palace environment. The Visual Story will help to familiarise students with the spaces around the palace.

1. **This is Kensington Palace. Come and look inside.**

This slide shows the main entrance of the palace. Ask your students what the palace looks like, e.g. it is big, old. What sort of person do they think might have lived there? (Clue: look at the white statue outside) What might it look like inside?

**3. Queen Victoria lived at Kensington Palace 200 years ago.**

Queen Victoria lived at Kensington Palace as a child and teenager until she became queen aged 18, after the death of her uncle. This slide shows her aged 13, standing in front of Kensington Palace.

**4. When you arrive you will first come to this building: the Clore Learning Centre.**

You will walk to the Clore Learning Centre. This is where your session starts and where you will have your lunch.

**5. You will enter this courtyard.**

If the weather is nice, you can eat your lunch here.

**6. You can leave your coats and bags here. There is an accessible toilet nearby.**

Members of the Learning team will meet you. You will leave your coats and bags in the large cupboards where they will be safe. You will be given wristbands to put on while in the palace. It shows you are part of a school group. There is an accessible toilet nearby.

 **7**. **You will spend time in this room learning about Queen Victoria’s childhood.**

Amy will lead your session in this room.

**8. You will have the chance to handle toys and clothes like these.**

In the session you will have the chance to handle toys similar to those played with by Princess Victoria. If you like, you can also dress up in Victorian style clothing.

**9. Afterwards you will walk through the gardens to the palace.**

You will walk by these gardens. See whether you can see any flowers and hear any birds singing.

**10. The entrance to the palace is behind the green canopy.**

You will enter the palace through the main doors.

**11. You will walk up these stairs.**

This is a grand staircase. Princess Victoria was not allowed to walk up or down stairs by herself.

**12. There is also a lift.**

If you need to go into the lift, a member of staff will help with this. They meet the rest of the group upstairs.

**13. You will visit the rooms that Victoria grew up in.**

This room is in the exhibition ‘Victoria: A Royal Childhood’. There are lots of beautiful objects that tell us about Victoria’s life at Kensington Palace. Ask your students to choose their favourite object from the room.

**14. You will see a model of Kensington Palace.**

The rooms that Princess Victoria lived in are lit up in this model. See whether you can find her. Listen out for her pet dog Dash.

**15. You will see this painting of Queen Victoria when she was a baby, with her mother Victoire.**

This painting shows Princess Victoria and her mother Victoire. Look closely – can you see an image of her father Edward?

**16. You might see toys that Queen Victoria played with.**

Amy will ask you to find things that Princess Victoria played with. Remember to look in this big case.

**17. Look out for the room in which Queen Victoria was born.**

Inside the room you will see a bed and a crib similar to the ones used by Princess Victoria and her mother.

**18. You will walk through this room.**

When Victoria became queen, she her first meeting with her advisers was held in this room. The meeting is represented by figures on the large table and in a painting in the room.

**19. You might see this staircase in the palace.**

This is the grand King’s Staircase. Look at the paintings on the wall. They show some of the people who worked for the king.

When you are exploring Kensington Palace try and remember to look **up** as you go around. You will be able to see a lot more this way!

**20. If you need help or have any questions, you can ask someone in a uniform.**

People wearing these black and red uniforms work at the palace. They are Palace Hosts and they are there to make sure you have an enjoyable visit. You can ask them questions and they are always happy to help you.

**21. We hope you enjoy your visit.**

We hope the Visual Story and Support Notes are useful in preparing your students for their visit to the palace. Please let us know if you require any more information before your visit.