

Visiting IWM North to study the Holocaust

Information for teachers and educators to help prepare for a Holocaust-related visit to IWM North.

If you have booked one of our staff-led sessions **The Holocaust: A Case Study of a Ghetto** or **Guided Tour: Holocaust** or are planning to use our self-directed resource, [Holocaust Trail](#), it is important to prepare your students before you arrive. These activities are not an introduction to the Holocaust, so it is essential that your students have some background knowledge of this subject. The first eight pages of the [Historical Notes](#) document are an excellent introduction to the events and terminology of the Holocaust.

We also offer a free DVD resource, containing two short films suitable for secondary school students learning about the Holocaust. The first, *The Way We Lived*, focuses on pre-Holocaust Jewish life in Europe. The second, *Roots of Antisemitism*, examines the origins of antisemitism and how it affected people. If you would like a copy for your school, please contact learningnorth@iwm.org.uk.

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance offers guidelines for teaching the Holocaust, which you may find helpful: [holocaustremembrance.com/educate/teaching-guidelines](https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/educate/teaching-guidelines)

Reflections is an educational pack which explores the Holocaust through the personal stories behind the photographs and artefacts on display in *The Holocaust Exhibition* at IWM London. It is a useful teaching resource in its own right, even if you are not going to visit this exhibition. It can be bought from our [online shop](#).

It is important when studying the Holocaust that Jewish people are not defined solely in reference to the Holocaust. Local schools will find a visit to the [Manchester Jewish Museum](#) a useful way to learn about life before and after the Holocaust.

Other useful websites include:

Centre for Holocaust Education - [holocausteducation.org.uk/](https://www.holocausteducation.org.uk/)

Holocaust Educational Trust - [het.org.uk/](https://www.het.org.uk/)

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum - [ushmm.org/](https://www.ushmm.org/)

The London Jewish Cultural Centre's The Holocaust Explained website – [theholocaustexplained.org](https://www.theholocaustexplained.org)

While you are here, be sure to explore the Main Exhibition Space

Our [Holocaust Trail](#), aimed at Year 9 to Post-16 groups, will help your students navigate the Main Exhibition Space to learn about the Holocaust. There are also [Teachers Notes](#) to accompany the Trail, which provide more information.

Timeline

The Timeline runs around the perimeter wall of the Main Exhibition Space. It starts at 1914 and continues to the present date.

1919-1939 section

If your group wish to explore the rise of fascism in interwar Germany, please go to this section of the Timeline (it is adjacent to the red fire trailer pump located in the centre of the Main Exhibition Space).

The **Safe for Democracy** case contains artefacts showing the spread of fascism across Europe, including Britain.

The **Germany Between the Wars** case contains objects, books, documents and uniform showing the rise of Nazi ideology, as well as a shop sign denying access to Jews. A film showing the rise of the Nazi Party in Germany is located next to the **Germany Between the Wars** case.

1939-1945 section

Personal stories and objects related specifically to the Holocaust can be found in the **Genocide** case. This is located at the end of the 1939-1945 section of the Timeline (next to Silo 3).

The case contains personal belongings, photographs and documents of Jews who were deported to ghettos and camps, as well as objects from concentration camps. The touchscreen located on the right of the **Genocide** case will help your students to find out more about the personal stories in the case, including those of Sam Pivnik and Ezra Jurmann.

On the left of the Genocide case, your students will find artwork commissioned by IWM by Chava Rosenzweig. This intimate and powerful installation explores the impact of the Holocaust on second and third generation survivors. A painting of the Lodz Ghetto, *The Death Cart* by Holocaust survivor Edith Birkin, is located opposite the Genocide case. Next to this painting, your students will find drawings of Ravensbrück concentration camp by a political prisoner, Violette Rougier Lecoq.

TimeStacks

Our TimeStacks are trays of objects linked by theme. Your group will find a Holocaust-themed tray at the TimeStack next to the T-34 Russian Tank in the Main Exhibition Space. This contains objects related to personal stories connected with Britain, such as Leslie Hardman, a Welsh Jew who was present with the British Army at the liberation of Bergen-Belsen camp.

Silos

The Main Exhibition Space also contains six small rooms, or Silos, which contain objects and stories connected by theme.

In **Silo 1: *Experience of War***, personal belongings of children, such as Celia Horwitz, brought to Britain by Kindertransport can be found in the **Evacuees and Child Refugees** case.

In **Silo 6: *Legacy of War***, look at the **Migration** touchscreen to find out more about Celia Horwitz (in her married name Celia Lee) and John Silberman, who both migrated to escape the Holocaust.

Big Picture Show

This is a 360-degree audio-visual experience using images and sounds from our archives. One of the shows, *Children and War*, features testimony by children affected by Nazi persecution and antisemitism. Please check [here](#) to find out the Big Picture Show schedule for the date of your visit.