

# The Ambassador's Secret Assignment Mission (Secret Assignment) Teacher Notes



**Length:** The session lasts for 75 minutes and includes an introduction film and allows for time to move between the Clore Learning Centre and the palace. It takes approximately 45 minutes to complete the digital mission itself.

**Meeting point:** The facilitator will meet you by the Unicorn at the Clore Learning Centre. Please arrive at least 5 minutes before the start of your session.

## About the mission:

Missions are self-led digital resources for school groups. Each session can accommodate 1 class of up to 35 children plus accompanying adults. Each mission is located within a different part of the palace and is led by a character that sets a series of challenges for pupils, as 'Time Explorers', to complete.

At the start of your session, you will be shown a short film about your mission and given tips on how to use the iPads (note -there will be one iPad between two children). You will then be handed the iPads and directed towards the palace to begin the mission. Please note that iPads will need to be returned directly after the end of the mission.

The Ambassador's Secret Assignment mission features the Venetian ambassador, Carlo di Borghese, whose task is to spy on Henry VIII's court in order to report back to the Doge in Venice. The role of the Time Explorer is to find evidence of Henry's power, wealth, lineage and allegiances.

Pupils will undertake a series of digital challenges that explore the Tudor state apartments, encouraging them to look more closely at their surroundings. The mission promotes the development of key skills such as: team work, historical enquiry and asking valid questions.

A toolkit has been developed for teachers containing exciting videos, ideas and interactive resources, some of which should be used before your visit and some after. The toolkit has been designed to meet the aims of the new National Curriculum with a particular focus on History and English:

<http://www.hrp.org.uk/HamptonCourtPalace/learnatthispalace/hamptoncourtschools/schoolsessions/digital-missions/Ambassador-mission>

## Learning objectives:

- To use the palace and its history to extend pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066;
- To develop pupils' historical enquiry skills through rigorous analysis of the palace as a primary source;
- To make decisions based on their discoveries;
- To work as part of a team to complete a task;



- To use observation skills to find out about Henry VII's wealth, power, lineage and allegiances;
- To form an opinion of Henry VIII as a powerful monarch - based on the evidence.

## New National Curriculum links at KS2:

### History:

- A theme in British history beyond 1066 (the changing role of the monarch);
- Develop the appropriate use of historical terms;
- Understand the methods of historical enquiry, how evidence is used to make claims;

### English (spoken language):

- Articulate and justify answers, arguments and opinions;
- Use spoken language to develop understanding through speculating, hypothesising, imagining and exploring ideas.

## During your session:

Please note that the 1:10 staff to pupil ratio which we ask for throughout your visit to Hampton Court Palace still applies during your teaching session. We ask that sufficient adults remain with the group as they will be encouraged to join in with the session activities. Our workshops are designed for a health and safety maximum of x35 pupils per session. For your information this session will take in one of our classroom spaces in the palace and will also be on route.

