

Politics, Power & the Path to Peace

Teacher Notes

Duration: 90 minutes

Meeting Point: State Entrance

What role has Hillsborough Castle played in the modern political history of Northern Ireland?

Hillsborough Castle has been a place inextricably linked to the politics of the day since it was built in Georgian times. On a tour of the historic spaces where key discussions were held and agreements signed, students will uncover the pivotal role it has played in modern Northern Irish history, as well as exploring the background to the Troubles using a range of source material.

Learning objectives

Students will:

- Learn that Hillsborough Castle has been linked to the politics of the time since it was built.
- Learn which agreements have been signed, and negotiated here, and explore the spaces where this took place.
- Explore the principles and implementation of the Good Friday Agreement and the changes made to it by subsequent agreements.
- Explore the idea of power and the attributes of democracy.
- Investigate the origins of conflict and how it can be portrayed in the media.

National Curriculum links

This session supports:

- Increased understanding of the governance of Northern Ireland after Partition.
- An increase in students' awareness of the historical background leading up to 1998, including the Anglo-Irish Agreement.
- Students understanding and knowledge of the government of Northern Ireland since 1994, including devolution.
- Students understanding and knowledge of the principles, content and implementation of the Good Friday Agreement and the changes made to it by subsequent agreements.

During your session:

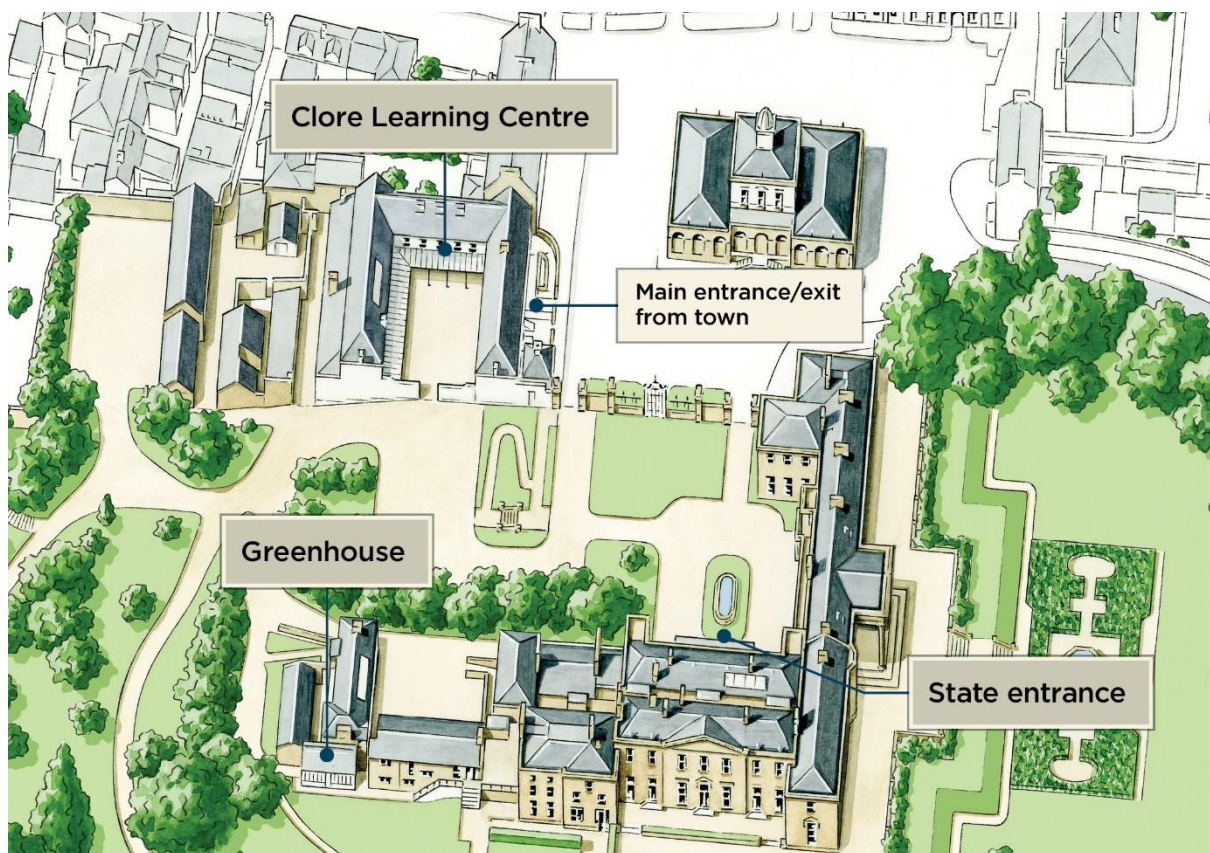
Please note that the 1:15 staff to student ratio which we ask for throughout your visit still applies during your learning session. We ask that sufficient adults remain with



HISTORIC ROYAL PALACES

the group as they will be encouraged to join in with the session activities. For health and safety reasons, our sessions are strictly for a maximum of 30 students. The session your group has booked with us takes place partially on the visitor route at Hillsborough Castle, and partly in the **Clore Learning Centre**. Please note, there will be other visitors in the castle at the same time.

Please meet your session presenter at the **State Entrance**. This is marked on the map below and is located underneath the flagpole.



This is where your presenter will meet you at your allocated start time. We recommend being there a few minutes early.

For your information, at the start of this session there may be a short wait outside, please encourage your students to dress accordingly.