



Museum of London to open display delving into the history of the City of London's first orphanage and school, Christ's Hospital.

Bluecoats in the City will explore the history of one of London's most renowned schools, Christ's Hospital.

Bluecoats in the City
Museum of London
12 July – 4 November 2018
Free

The Museum of London is hosting a new display, *Bluecoats in the City*, looking at the impact and story behind The City of London's first orphanage and school, Christ's Hospital.

Founded in 1552, Christ's Hospital transformed the site of a former monastery into a sanctuary for the City of London's orphaned and impoverished children, offering food, lodging and an education.

Since opening, Christ's Hospital has now educated, lodged, fed and clothed more than 45,000 children, thanks to donations from the City of London and charitable benefactors. In 1902 the School moved from the City to the market town of Horsham. However its strong bonds to The City of London remain.

The Museum of London's new display, *Bluecoats in the City*, allows visitors a chance to discover a school like no other. Delving into the history behind the School's creation, its iconic historic uniforms and traditional practices, alumni and centuries- long relationship with London.

Museum of London, Senior Curator, Hazel Forsyth said:

'As the City's first orphanage and School, Christ Hospital played a very significant role in London's history. Built to create a future for London's most disadvantaged children, the school has gone on to educate and lodge over 45,000 through the generosity of the City of London and countless benefactors.'

'This display celebrates that unique relationship and offers a look behind 350 years of history, with loan items from Christ's Hospital and stories about some of its distinguished and influential pupils.'

Christ's Hospital Museum Curator, Laura Kidner commented:

"Bluecoats in the City explores the extraordinary and diverse history of one of the oldest boarding schools in England. Over 30 intriguing objects present a thematic display, bringing to life our early London roots, over three centuries, before the school moved to Horsham, West Sussex in 1902.



The School continues its original mission, dating back to its foundation in the City, to provide a life-changing educational opportunity. It is the leading charitable boarding school in the UK for bursaries and for its contribution to social mobility in the UK today; currently 75% of its pupils receive a free or fee-assisted boarding place."

About The Museum of London

The Museum of London tells the ever-changing story of this great world city and its people, from 450,000 BC to the present day. Our galleries, exhibitions, displays and activities seek to inspire a passion for London and provide a sense of the vibrancy that makes the city such a unique place.

The museum is open daily 10am – 6pm and is FREE to all, and you can explore the Museum of London with collections online – home to 90,000 objects with more being added.

www.museumoflondon.org.uk.