

**GEM Cymru Museum Learning Mentor scheme – Museum applicants**

***What is the project?***

As part of GEM Cymru’s Welsh Government funded work for 2023-25, we are seeking applications from accredited museums in Wales who would like to work with experienced museum learning practitioners to help your staff design, develop and test out new resources and services that relate to the new curriculum. Alongside the mentoring process, there will be a small budget to help your museum with the cost of the design and production of materials & resources.

Learning mentors will share their ideas with your museum, help your museum expand your networks, help improve the museum’s learning services and support your staff in gaining confidence in your Curriculum for Wales educational provision.

***Your GEM Learning Mentor will have:***

* Experience of providing museum learning advice and support to projects and organisations
* A good knowledge of the museums sector in Wales.
* A practical understanding of the new Curriculum for Wales
* A full awareness of how museums in Wales can provide a curriculum relevant education service
* An appreciation of project legacy – how to make your heritage learning project sustainable beyond the timescale of the project
* An approachable, organised and communicative way of working with staff and stakeholders

***What can you expect from the GEM Cymru Learning Mentor scheme?***

Learning Mentors will provide support for successful museum applicants:

* By assisting your museum in developing, designing and piloting new Curriculum for Wales related learning resources for local schools
* By providing heritage learning advice, guidance and practical help to your museum
* Help your museum to identify and develop relationships with your local schools audience
* Support you in using GEM Cymru Curriculum for Wales resources such as the toolkit and INSeT template
* Help your museum to ensure project legacy. For example, provide advice to you on fundraising and advocacy techniques
* There will be up to 5 days of learning mentoring time allocated to each museum

***Each successful museum will be allocated a small budget (£500-£750) which is to be used towards the development costs of appropriate learning resources.***



There will be two rounds of the GEM Learning Mentor scheme, running between October 2023 – March 2024 and September 2024 – March 2025. Mentors will be ‘best-matched’ to successful museum applicants using a variety of factors. Mentors will work with their museum to decide how and when to use the time each project has, which will include in-person and /or online contact.

***How does your museum apply for a Learning Mentor?***

* By sending an application letter to GEM at: office@gem.org.uk by 9th October 2023
* Please include in your application:
	+ Your name, museum & contact details
	+ Your accreditation status
	+ The current status of your museum learning service
	+ Why you would like the support of a GEM Learning Mentor
	+ What kind of project you would like help to develop
	+ Any specific support / help / advice you would like
	+ When you would like to work with your mentor

***What happens next?***

* There is a GEM Cymru tea time event on Monday September 25th 2023, which will contain information about the GEM Cymru Learning Mentor scheme – please book here: <https://gem.org.uk/event/gem-cymru-new-curriculum-for-wales-gem-online-resources-research/> (*attendance is not a pre-requisite of application*)
* Please email robin@gem.org.uk if you have a query or would like any clarification on the scheme
* Should your museum be shortlisted, you will be contacted by GEM in order to take your application further