



Your Visit

Booking

We would suggest that you allow at least two and a half hours for a visit so that you may experience all three parts. Large groups will be split into three, and, in the case of schools and youth groups, we would ask you to have an adult available to accompany each of the groups. We will provide a secure place where refreshments can be enjoyed and items may be left safely.

All of this is offered free of charge to schools. For adult groups, we request a fee of £6.00 per person to cover the whole visit.

If any of this seems unclear, please do contact us to clarify.

“A Morning on the Hill is a wonderful opportunity to acquaint yourself with this ancient part of Armagh and the heritage it offers.”

The Very Rev Patrick W Rooke
Dean, St Patrick's Cathedral
Keeper, Armagh Public Library

Booking Essential

Visits can be booked for the Cathedral, the Library and No5 by contacting:

Armagh Public Library
43 Abbey Street, Armagh BT61 7DY
Tel. 028 3752 3142
E-mail: admin@armaghpubliclibrary.co.uk

Websites:

www.stpatricks-cathedral.org
www.armaghrobinsonlibrary.org

A Morning on the Hill



Visits to
St Patrick's Cathedral,
No5 Vicars' Hill and
Armagh Public Library



St Patrick's Cathedral

We invite schools and groups to consider a morning (or a day) on the Hill of Armagh. This is a three-fold visit to Armagh's ancient hill – with three representatives to greet groups and show them the treasures.

The story of Armagh Cathedral begins in the year 445 when, according to tradition, St Patrick built a church on the hill from which the city derives its name 'Ard Mhacha – The Height of Mhacha'. The plan of the Cathedral, as it now stands, is the design of Archbishop O'Scanlain in 1268. Some of the highlights of the tour will include silverware from 1796, the unusual staircase to the bell tower, and some interesting stone carvings which date from the Pre-Christian period. This part of the visit will be led by the Cathedral Steward.



No5 Vicars' Hill

Built in 1772 as the Diocesan Registry to hold records for the Cathedral and Armagh Diocese, its octagonal rooms contained many public as well as Church records. Whilst the records are no longer retained in the building, some examples are on display along with ancient coins, gems, significant prints, early Christian artefacts and other collections and curiosities. Recently restored, this deceptively small building has a fascinating interior and retains many of its original features.

This visit will be led by the Registry Officer. There is an opportunity to explore the collections in more detail through use of touch screens and advice can be provided to those who wish to carry out more in-depth research of the archives, many of which are contained in the nearby Library.



Armagh Public Library

Armagh Public Library, the oldest library in Northern Ireland, was founded in 1771 by Archbishop Richard Robinson as part of his plans to establish a university and to improve the city of Armagh. The nucleus of the collection is Archbishop Robinson's own library on theology, philosophy, classic and modern literature, voyages and travels, history, medicine and law.

This visit will be led by the Assistant Keeper. Apart from encouraging visitors to handle 18th and 19th century books with care, the visit will also allow people to view the 1835 Ordnance Survey Maps to show how their townland, village or town looked all those years ago.

