

# Placement Role Description

## JORVIK Collections Up-Close Placement (10 Day Placement)



### ***What do Collections Up-Close Placements do?***

Our JORVIK Collections Up-Close placements are supported to learn how to deliver elements of two artefact collections created from finds discovered on the Coppergate excavation. The collections are designed to offer enhanced visitor access and engagement to this unique collection and the rich archaeology of the dig. The placement offers an opportunity to learn about public artefact and archaeological engagement and gain experience in the delivery of this whilst supporting visitor opportunities to further explore the dig and the discoveries it made.

Placements in this role are offered for two-week blocks over the busy summer school holidays period to learn and deliver a condensed selection from the collection to help focus their learning and engagement.

### ***Where Will I Be Undertaking My Placement?***

The JORVIK Viking Centre was first opened in 1984 after a five year long excavation. It stands on the site of the famous Coppergate excavations which revealed some of the most famous and outstanding discoveries in modern archaeology. Find out more at [www.jorvikvikingcentre.co.uk/about](http://www.jorvikvikingcentre.co.uk/about).

### ***Who does the role suit?***

Involvement in the collections up-close role is ideal for someone who is interested in Viking history, archaeological and heritage interpretation, gaining hands-on experience of finds handling. The placement also offers an enjoyable opportunity to meet new people and be a part of the Trust's work, York's heritage and the JORVIK experience.

The 2-week placement opportunity particularly suits someone who would like involvement in our collections viewing role but might have difficulty committing to regular volunteering over a longer period.

### ***Skills and Interests***

You don't need guiding or historical knowledge but placements should:

- Be passionate about York's Viking past, Viking history or archaeology
- Be confident engaging and initiating conversation with a wide range of visitors.
- Enjoy being part of a team with other staff and volunteers

### ***Volunteer Tasks***

- Offer 'Collections Up-Close' opportunities at JORVIK with finds from the Coppergate excavation.
- Use a collection of finds designed to help visitors discover the story of the Coppergate dig.
- Offer additional engagement outside the Centre with a collection of finds designed to orient people with the location of the dig.
- Enhance visitor experience by offering close-up engagement with archaeology



## ***Induction, Training & Support***

Video training materials are provided to you with all the information you need to get started. We will also ask you to attend a welcome session if you are able to help familiarise you with the Centre and meet our teams. We will then arrange with you a ten day placement spread over a two week period.

You will be supported throughout your placement by the Volunteering and Site Management teams.

## ***What Will I Gain from a Placement?***

### ***Meet new people***

You will be part of a friendly team of volunteers and staff at JORVIK, and get the opportunity to talk to visitors with a wide range of interests and backgrounds.

### ***Contribute to the work of the York Archaeological Trust***

As an educational charity, our volunteers and placements help us engage visitors in our attractions, with the history and archaeology of York and the work of YAT, and enhance visitor experience. Maintaining this access and support for the Trust will be particularly important for us now post COVID-19.

### ***Work with a unique collection***

You will get hands on with a collection of archaeological artefacts from the world-famous Coppergate dig.

### ***Learn something new***

You will be given training on the archaeology and history of Viking York and the Coppergate dig and learn how to offer archaeological engagement and artefact interpretation and engagement to a wide range of visitors.

### ***An active role***

Volunteers and placements have a regular, social and fun activity to take part in.

## ***Hours & Involvement***

Placements usually get involved for a block period of 10 days spread over a two week period. Days are available Monday to Friday and usually run from about 9.30 am—5.00 pm.

## ***Uniform***

You will be given a volunteer shirt to wear which we ask you to team with a pair of dark smart trousers and smart shoes.

## ***How do I apply?***

Placements apply at our intake periods. [Application is through our online application form here](#). For more information or any questions, please email [volunteer@yorkat.co.uk](mailto:volunteer@yorkat.co.uk).