

Museums & Heritage Arts Award

Discover

Museum info form

Sutton House – National Trust

Location

2 & 4 Homerton High Street, Hackney, E9 6JQ

Website

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sutton-house-and-breakers-yard

Art forms

- Drama
- Storytelling
- Drawing
- Painting
- Poetry
- Fiction
- Live/performance art
- Curation
- Interpretation

Museum info

Sutton House was built in 1535 by Sir Ralph Sadlier, a courtier of Henry VIII. As the oldest surviving house in Hackney we have a rich history which is not just Tudor. We have housed a captain linked to the East India Company, French Huguenots, 2 boys' schools and 2 girls' schools, one of which was a school of etiquette. We have also been a house for squatters in the 80's, who wanted to turn Sutton House into a community centre.

The National Trust actually bought Sutton House in the 30's but did not know what to do with it. In the 80s it was decided to turn Sutton House into flats. Fortunately, the community of Hackney got together and started the 'Save Sutton House Society'. They campaigned to keep Sutton House a place for the community and eventually in 1987 the National Trust decided to invest and reconstruct Sutton House to be open for the public. There was one condition however - that Sutton House would be the flagship for the National Trust's community engagement programme and be at the heart of the community it has evolved in.

Today Sutton House welcomes local families, schools, communities and visitors. We offer an award winning Schools Programme, designed and delivered by theatre practitioners, artists and educators.

Arts Award Discover Programmes

Name and theme of programmes

- a. *The Tudors*
- b. *Homes through time*
- c. *The Victorians*
- d. *Interpretation and curation*

Duration/timings

90 minute sessions

Cost

National Trust Educational Group Membership is approximately £90 for the whole school – and then workshops and use of Sutton House is FREE.

Programme outline

- a. Originally a Tudor House learn about their lives and Hackney 500 years ago.
- b. Look at Sutton House from Tudor time up until squatters lived here in the 1980s.
- c. Learn about Sutton House when it was a school in the Victorian times.
- d. Be a part of the Sutton House today, and help us with our programming, interpretation and curation. Let us know what you think.

Activities

- a. Rooms of Tudor panelling, décor and stories. Handle objects like a butter churner, herb burner, horn book and a quill. Creatively respond to depicting Tudor Lives in the present day and create a poster about their lives.
- b. Respond to interior design through 450 years and different objects through time, for example Georgian clothes, Victorian toys and squatters music.
- c. Find out what it was like to go to school in the Victorian times, have an authentic experience and respond through creative-writing – a letter from the Victorians.
- d. Respond to our interpretation and be a part of the creation to our public programme.

Objects to look out for



An example from our Tudor collection

Object maker information

Mary Beale - First Female Portrait Artist in Britain, late 17th century.

Much of our knowledge of her work comes from notebooks kept by her husband recording sitters, payments, and other information; they provide a fascinating insight into contemporary artistic practice.