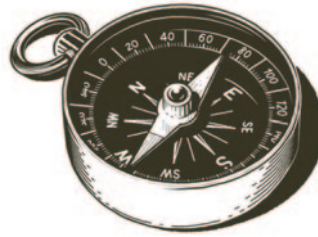


**Leicester Guildhall**  
Medieval Venue & Museum



# Explorer Trail

The Leicester Guildhall was built in 1390 by the Guild of Corpus Christi (a group of rich powerful men with links to the Catholic church)

The Guildhall is Leicester's oldest building still in use today. Over the years it has had many uses, including a meeting hall, banquet hall, a courtroom, and the home of Leicester's first police force.



**Use this trail to explore the Leicester Guildhall and its' interesting objects**

## Explore the Great Hall

The Great Hall is the room with the stone floor.

This hall would have been used for banquets in medieval times when it was built in 1390.

How long ago was it built?



Use this space to work out your answer

How do you think the hall was lit over 600 years ago?

**Candles**

**Torches**

**Electric lights**

How do you think the hall was heated over 600 years ago?

**Underfloor heating**

**Open fires**

**Central heating**

How many fireplaces can you find? (hint - there is one hidden in the floor)

Look around the hall. What are the main materials used in making the building?

Find something made from:

**Glass**    **Wood**

**Metal**    **Stone**

Name a material that wasn't invented when the Guildhall was built.



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# Head for the Mayor's Parlour

The Mayor's Parlour is the room lined with oak panels.

The mayor (the head of the city) used this room for important meetings.

Look at the high leather chair he would sit on during meetings.

Why is the seat placed high up?

The mayor was very tall

The mayor wanted to show people how important he was

The mayor liked heights



Find me

Draw a decorative detail on the mantle over the fireplace here



## Find the Library

These rooms became Leicester's first library, where many rare books are still kept. The library is the third oldest public library in the country.

Many of the books are about history, poetry, medicine, and mathematics.

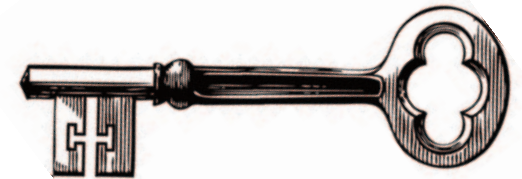
How do they look different to books nowadays?

Do you have a favourite book at home or school?

Draw or write about it here

## Go to the cells

1836 the Leicester Guildhall became the home of Leicester's first police force.



Find the two pick-pockets who can be found lurking within the police cells.

What is a gibbet? Find it and see what it was used for.



## Congratulations!



You have completed the Explorer Trail. Have you learnt something about the Leicester Guildhall that you didn't know before?