

VANBRUGH300

Presented by THE GEORGIAN GROUP



Join the Celebration of a True Creative Genius – Sir John Vanbrugh

Vanbrugh 300 is a nationwide celebration taking place in 2026, marking 300 years of the life and legacy of Sir John Vanbrugh (1664–1726). Known as “the rockstar of the English Baroque”, Vanbrugh wasn’t just a famous architect; he was also one of the greatest playwrights of his time, helping to shape the way we see British art, culture, and identity today.

Thanks to the generous support of the National Lottery Heritage Fund, this unique opportunity is offered entirely free of charge to UK state schools. Vanbrugh 300 invites pupils and teachers alike to explore the creativity, history, and heritage of this influential figure through a rich programme of learning and engagement.

Schools’ Programme

[Book here](#)

What is the offer?

Take your KS1 or KS2 class on a hands-on learning adventure celebrating the legacy of Sir John Vanbrugh.

- Begin the project with an inspiring CPD day for class teachers at the estate local to you designed by Vanbrugh. You will come away energised and inspired, with a creative learning toolkit to use on this project and beyond in your teaching practice which will enhance learning experiences, creative thinking and communication, ensuring all pupils access and engage with learning.
- Each school will explore their local Vanbrugh site through a guided visit packed with fun, interactive educational activities — all designed to spark curiosity and creativity.
- Before and after your visit, your pupils can dive deeper with ready-to-use classroom resources that link directly to the trip — inspiring pupils to design, imagine, and create just like Vanbrugh himself. Every activity has been carefully designed to support key learning objectives across multiple curriculum areas, including Literacy, Art, Design, D&T, History, Science, and STEM at KS1 and KS2. Resources include a comprehensive Teachers’ Pack to guide you through the project.

All downloadable resources are freely available on the Vanbrugh 300 website, so every school can get involved — whether or not a site visit is possible.

Teacher CPD day

Kickstart the project with an inspiring CPD day at your local heritage site designed by Vanbrugh site. This session goes far beyond an introduction to the project — it equips you with practical, creative strategies you can use straight away across the curriculum. You'll gain fresh ideas to spark curiosity, boost engagement, and make learning come alive for every pupil. The day also ensures you feel fully confident and prepared to lead a meaningful and memorable visit with your class. Invest a single day — and return with renewed inspiration, ready to transform learning back in school.

Class visit to Vanbrugh site

Step into history with an unforgettable visit to your local heritage site designed by Vanbrugh — Blenheim Palace, Castle Howard, Seaton Delaval Hall, Grimsthorpe Castle or Kimbolton Castle. Pupils will explore the fascinating world of one of Britain's greatest architects through a fun, guided tour that brings his designs and stories to life. A hands-on creative workshop will inspire curiosity and imagination, giving children the chance to build, design, and create while learning about art, architecture, and history. With interactive activities designed to complement the curriculum, every child will leave inspired, informed, and excited by the past. Once you have completed your booking form, your Vanbrugh site will contact you directly to book in a date for your visit in the Spring or Summer term 2026.

Curriculum-linked Resources

Bring history to life in your classroom with curriculum-linked resources — the perfect companion for your class visit. These comprehensive resources provide teachers with everything needed to explore the fascinating life and work of architect and dramatist Sir John Vanbrugh. Inside, you'll find an easy-to-follow overview of Vanbrugh's life, clear information on his most famous sites, and ready-to-use lesson plans linked to history, art, and literacy and more. These lessons are designed for both before and after your visit, helping pupils connect classroom learning with real-world experiences. Resources also include step-by-step guides to creative short projects, encouraging pupils to think like architects, storytellers, and historians. With flexible activities, curriculum links, and practical teaching tips, these resource supports rich, cross-curricular learning — making Vanbrugh's world accessible, inspiring, and fun for primary pupils.

Full resources will be available from January 2026 and downloadable from:

www.vanbrugh300.co.uk

How do I book a place?

Simply complete this **[online booking form](#)**. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. You will receive confirmation of receipt of your booking shortly after submission. You will receive confirmation of your place and the Vanbrugh site you will visit by the end of the Autumn term. You will then be contacted by your local Vanbrugh site directly to arrange a mutually suitable date for your school visit in either the Spring or Summer term 2026.

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PAUL MELLON CENTRE
for Studies in British Art

