

TRAFFIC & OPERATING DEPARTMENT

Notes for Driver Experience Course Participants

- Participants should be at least eighteen years of age and physically moderately fit. There is no upper age limit but the courses are only available to the able bodied due to the physical requirements of safe access and egress of the locomotives.
- The locomotive cab can be an extreme environment. The entrances are often less than two feet (60cm) wide up to waist height and are usually accessed via the platform, but occasionally from ground level. This will mean there is an essential requirement for participants to be able to climb a short vertical ladder/steps with hand rails from ground level.
- If there is any question regarding fitness then museum staff may ask participants to demonstrate that they are able to climb up and down the short vertical ladder to enable a prompt evacuation in the event of an emergency.
- Participants must have reasonable sight and hearing (corrected or aided) and an ability to stand without walking aids. Good colour vision is not required.
- The experience will include periods of up to 40 minutes without a break standing on a hot steam locomotive footplate. It is a harsh environment. The outside weather may be cold and include heavy rain, whilst in contrast the footplate on summer days will likely be uncomfortably hot for even the most seasoned loco driver. We ask that participants consider their health before attending or seek advice from their own general practitioner if there is any doubt.
- Reasonable sturdy footwear is essential. Shoes must be enclosed (not flip-flops or crocs) and have a leather (or similar) upper. Leather safety boots are recommended but not mandatory.
- Candidates must not participate whilst under the influence of alcohol or performance impacting drugs (recreational or prescription).
- You will be provided with basic personal protective clothing including gloves due to the very hot surfaces on the footplate and cotton mix overalls. However the footplate is an oily, sooty place, so please don't wear your best clothing. We will not be responsible for any damage or soiling.
- The Course Co-ordinator or Driver Instructor have the right to end a delegate's participation or indeed the entire course in the interests of safety.
- Consideration as to whether a person with a disability can be accommodated and evacuated safely will be given with advanced prior arrangement. An assessment will be undertaken but the Traffic Manager's decision is final.

We aim to give you an enjoyable, safe and unforgettable experience.

Best wishes

Isaac Ferneyhough

Traffic & Operations Manager