

# Playing up

The project was designed to exploit not the collections housed on the site but the buildings themselves.

We are fortunate to be based in a Neo-Classical mansion with a restored Tudor Hall also on the site.

Philip Watts, who is part of our education team, teaches part time in a local secondary school and he pointed out the potential of the buildings as a creative and original setting to explore some of the set texts done in schools at KS3 and KS4.

For further information contact Graham Hicks at:

Tatton Park,  
Knutsford  
Cheshire  
WA16 6QN  
01625 534400

graham.hicks@cheshire.gov.uk



As this was the first time we had attempted to develop this kind of programme we contacted our LEA. We proposed to study pre 1914 fiction in the Mansion and Shakespeare's plays in the Old Hall. Both of these are compulsory at KS3 and KS4.

We received enthusiastic support and really valuable advice from the LEA advisors. This led to us bringing in an element of drama which was very well received.

We piloted the programme with four schools, deliberately asking two of the schools not to prepare in advance of their visit. This informed the project as to how we would cope with a school group who had under-prepared for their visit.

This was useful experience and led to a highly successful visit by a group from an EAZ school who were introduced to Macbeth.

**“This unique experience really brings classic texts to life for a wide range of pupils, providing a tremendous boost to their engagement with and understanding of English and English Literature.”**

Diane Tibbits, English Adviser for Cheshire County Council

