

Introduction for teachers

Overview

Salford, like all other British cities, played a significant part in the heroism, tragedy and disillusionment of the First World War. This website provides secondary school teachers and pupils with some fascinating resources about Salford's role in the war and its aftermath, with a particular focus on the treatment of returning heroes.

The lesson plans

A series of five lesson plans have been provided to make use of the resources. Alternatively, teachers can devise their own lessons around the resources or pupils can use these original resources directly in their own research. The lessons here are based on a 60 minute period but additional activities have been provided for schools with longer lessons or for those wishing to explore each theme in more depth in subsequent lessons or for homework.

Local context

A local study such as this can provide an illuminating in-depth insight into the human stories behind the general overview of the First World War as taught in schools. The reference to local place names and familiar situations can help to bring the history to life for pupils. This particular Salford story, of soldiers returning home to a land which was not always 'fit for heroes', is echoed across the whole country and so the in-depth local study reinforces the general overview of learning about the war and its aftermath.

Possible use with Controlled Assessments

Providing this local context could be useful to teachers planning Controlled Assessments for their GCSE pupils. Some examination boards encourage schools to add extra sources or to amend the main question to place the assessment into a local context. So, for example, a Controlled Assessment on the impact of the First World War could use some of the sources on this website to provide evidence of the impact on people's lives in Salford. The variety of types of sources, plus the varied impact they reveal, enables this collection to be particularly suitable to the requirements of the Controlled Assessments.

Transcripts

To help make the resources more accessible, transcripts are provided for handwritten sources which may be difficult to read. In some cases the original piece of writing has been modified slightly in the transcript so that it is more understandable for a younger generation – for example abbreviations such as 'Bn' for battalion and 'Sergt' for Sergeant have been written in full.

Audio and visual material

For some sources audio recordings and video footage are provided to bring the written sources to life. Where these are available it is indicated by appropriate icons.