

Seamus Heaney HomePlace Pre-Visit Guide



Seamus Heaney HomePlace is situated in the village of Bellaghy.

The easiest way to get to Seamus Heaney HomePlace is by car and the best place to park is in the visitor car park located to the left of our main entrance, on the Gulladuff Road.



You will enter Seamus Heaney HomePlace through automatic doors on the ground floor. These lead to our reception desk. Here you will be greeted by our friendly and welcoming staff. The team will answer any questions you may have about your visit and will help you with your tickets.

Please let staff know if you would like to borrow ear defenders or sensory equipment.



We recommend pre-booking tickets via telephone or on our website.

Our phone number is 02879 387444.

Our website is SeamusHeaneyHome.com

If you use a Just a Minute (JAM) card, you can present it to our staff who will be happy to accommodate you.

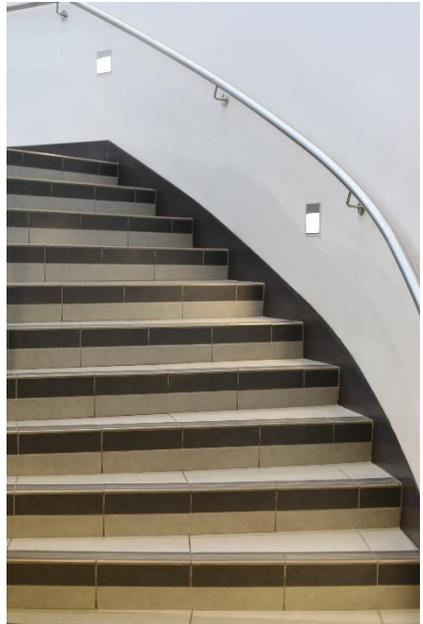
One of our Visitor Experience Guides will provide you with a short introduction to the 'People and Place' section of our exhibition. Along with information about Seamus Heaney, you will receive a map of the building and an audio device on which you can listen to the poet reading a large selection of his work. You are then free to explore the exhibition at your leisure. This picture shows what our audio devices look like. Staff will show you how to use the device.



People and Place is located on the ground floor of the exhibition. It focuses on the friends, family and area which influenced Seamus Heaney's life and poetry. There are artefacts, videos and interactive screens for you to explore.



When you have finished exploring the ground floor of our exhibition space, you can make your way upstairs via our elevator or spiral staircase to the first floor where you will find the Word Hoard.



At the top of the stairs is our Word Hoard. This has words from the English and Irish languages as well as Ulster Scots.

Once upstairs, you can visit the Imagination & Inspiration section of our exhibition. There are lots of photos here and there are also some games to play.



In this section you can also visit a recreation of Seamus Heaney's attic study. This is a small area of the exhibition where we have artefacts, books and photographs for you to view. There is also a short video all about Seamus Heaney being awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1995.



The Creative Learning Zone is also upstairs and is right beside the Imagination & Inspiration section of our exhibition.

The Creative Learning Zone is for all ages. Here you can take part in lots of arts and crafts. You can also simply take a book and relax.



Our Creative Learning Officers will be on hand if you require any assistance.

During the exhibition you might hear our intercom system being used to make announcements. For example, an announcement is made every day at 16:50 to announce that the exhibition will close at 17:00.

In the unlikely event of a fire, you will hear a noisy alarm. Please leave the building. Staff will guide you to the nearest fire exit.

The HomePlace Café is located on the first floor. Here you can find a delicious selection of locally sourced food.

The café has a coffee machine and blender which can be noisy. Music is also played on speakers in the café.

The café's phone number is 02879 386808.



At the back of the café is The Library. Here we have over 800 books, and two interactive screens through which you can access our digital archive.

Our theatre space is called The Helicon. This is where we hold performances and talks.

The Helicon doors are beside the café.



There are three meeting rooms in our main building. These rooms are called The Strand, The Glanmore and The Broagh. These rooms can be privately hired.



There are male and female toilets on both floors of the exhibition. We also have an accessible toilet on each floor. There are baby changing facilities in the accessible toilets. The toilets have hand dryers which you might find noisy.



We have a Sensory Tent for any visitors who need to take a break or would like some quiet space. Please ask a member of staff about this.



‘The Back Yard’ garden is a short walk from the main building. The garden offers a wide range of sensory experiences including signs with Braille, a fully functioning water well and a wide range of plants and flowers. You can also use your audio device here.



There are two meeting rooms in Moyola Hall, which is situated beside The Back Yard.



We hope you enjoy your visit to Seamus Heaney HomePlace.