

JOB DESCRIPTION



Job Title	Curator of 17th- and 18th-century Ceramics & Glass, supported by The Headley Trust	Duration	Permanent post
Division	Collections	Hours/FTE	36
Dept	Sculpture, Metalwork, Ceramics & Glass	Salary	£27,878 - £33,506
Reports to	Senior Curator of Ceramics & Glass	Direct Reports	none

Context

The V&A is the world's leading museum of art and design. Its European ceramics and glass collections are exceptional in their size, range and quality, ranging from the early medieval period to the present day (collections of Asian ceramics are cared for by the Asian Department).

The post-holder will form part of the team responsible for the care, research, display and interpretation of the collections of the Sculpture, Metalwork, Ceramics and Glass Department.

Main Purpose of job

The post-holder will be responsible for the collections of 17th- and 18th-century ceramics and glass. The extensive British and continental European 18th-century pottery and porcelain collections are nationally pre-eminent and of international importance, and the post-holder will be expected to represent the Museum at the highest level and play an active role in the field of 18th-century studies and collecting, both nationally and internationally.

Key Responsibilities

1. To take curatorial responsibility for 17 th - and 18 th -century ceramics and glass and to act more broadly as an 18 th -century specialist within the Department and on behalf of the Museum.
2. To take responsibility for the displays of 17 th - and 18 th -century ceramics and glass within the Museum, ensuring that the displays are well maintained and appropriately interpreted.
3. To undertake research, initiate exhibitions and displays and publish the collection in traditional and online forms.
4. To contribute to the Ceramics and Glass section's on-line projects, including Search the Collections.
5. To take an active part in the Museum's public programme and to work with staff across the Museum to support projects as required.
6. To manage the Ceramics and Glass section's library and take responsibility for the section's 'long loans in' administration or an equivalent area of the Ceramics and Glass section's collections management.
7. To work with senior colleagues in providing expert advice to Government, to public bodies, to the press and others.
8. To help provide an efficient service answering enquiries, giving opinions, and making appointments to the general public, and maintaining and developing the section's information systems and making them available to scholars.
9. Carry out ad hoc duties as requested by managers within your department.

The above job description is intended to be an outline of the duties and responsibilities for this role. This is not exhaustive, and it is likely to change over time. You may be expected to undertake other duties that are commensurate with this role.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Specific	A postgraduate degree in a relevant discipline or evidence of equivalent expertise.
	Expertise in 18 th century culture, design and decorative arts, plus a demonstrable interest in British or European ceramics or glass. Evidence of a commitment to developing further expertise.
	Curatorial experience in a museum context, including knowledge of the needs of different audiences and a commitment to providing for these, through publications, lectures, gallery talks and the creation of new displays and of material for the web.
	Research experience, the ability to write for a wide range of audiences and, in particular, a commitment to object-based research.
Core Skills	Evidence of practical and organisational skills. Meticulousness, a keen attention to detail in all aspects of work, particularly record keeping.
	Ability to represent the department and the museum nationally and internationally.
	Proven ability to handle materials with care and sensitivity to their physical properties.
	Good writing skills, sound knowledge of English grammar and syntax.
	Proven knowledge of at least one modern European language.
	Demonstrable computer skills (Excel, Photoshop, PowerPoint, etc.) and ability to manage information systematically and accurately
Behaviours	Respects others' expertise, time, perspectives and contribution.
	Takes responsibility for delivering on actions, achieving high-standards and learning from mistakes
	Open to change , new ideas and suggestions; looks for opportunities for improvement and self-development. Ability to propose and implement innovative ideas.
	Works with others outside their own department in a collaborative, understanding, and, engaging way.
	Flexible and able to work under pressure.
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Record of publication.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expertise in 18th-century ceramics and glass.

Hours: Net working hours (i.e. excluding meal breaks) are 36 per week.

Normal working hours are 9am-5.15pm Monday to Thursday and 9am-5pm Fridays.