



Increasing your local knowledge

## *Local History, Culture and Heritage*

History and heritage is all around us, in the newspapers, on the radio, television and cinemas, exhibitions and tourist centres. Studying history, culture and heritage enables you to understand the social and economic forces which have shaped your location. What happened during the Highland clearances? Why is Aberdeen called the "Granite City"? These notes aim to provide you with a better understanding of how historical local issues may be relevant today and how students react to them.

### **UNDERSTANDING LOCAL HISTORY, CULTURE AND HERITAGE**

We all live our lives against a rich backdrop formed by historic buildings, landscapes and other physical elements of our past. Our culture and heritage also includes a set of social values and traditions, customs, practices and beliefs that we understand and follow. It influences the way we behave and how we organise our families and communities.

All this is central to how we see ourselves and to our identity as individuals and should be taken into consideration when engaging with potential students. By understanding these issues, you will be better equipped to understand and anticipate your potential students' behaviour.

### **SUGGESTED QUESTIONS**

- Why is understanding local history, culture and heritage an important issue?
- Give examples of how history, culture and heritage of the region can affect potential students and their understanding of formal education
- Can you identify the most important history, culture and heritage aspects of your region?
- Discuss relevance
- Discuss how these issues may influence the way you engage with students

### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

- Local sources
- [Aberdeen City and Shire](#)
- [Aberdeen Heritage](#)
- [Highland History and Culture](#)
- [Visit Scotland](#)