



NoCOut:

Nottingham Classics Out and about

Would you like to learn more about the Romans and the Greeks? How about having a go at learning a bit of Latin or some ancient Greek? Have you ever wondered what the spells in Harry Potter mean? Where the names for Bakugan came from?

Learning about the Greeks and Romans

What has the ancient world done for us?

- The beginnings of philosophy (Socrates, Plato, Aristotle)
- Understanding political thought (Democracy)
- The origins of Western literature (Homer, Greek tragedy, Virgil)
- Hugely influential art and architecture (Pompeii, the Parthenon, the Colosseum)
- Fascinating, lively and influential myths (Medusa, Pegasus)
- The Roman army

Learning Latin and *Minimus*

Why might you want to learn Latin?

- It is the language of the Romans, and helps to gain access to over a thousand years of Western culture, from poems like Virgil's *Aeneid* and Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, to the works of major philosophers and scientists.
- Many English words, not to mention legal and medical terms, come from Latin, and learning Latin grammatical structures helps to understand English ones.
- It is hard work, challenging but above all enjoyable.
- There is very little Latin available in the state sector these days, so this might be your one chance to have a go!

Why *Minimus*?

- *Minimus* is a course designed for 7-10 year olds, which follows the life of a mouse and his family in Vindolanda, near Hadrian's wall, using primary evidence of life at the time (the Vindolanda tablets).
- We will learn basic Latin vocabulary and grammar, find out about Roman history and life, as well as a bit of myth and story-telling, and some fun activities.

Who we are

The department of Classics at the University of Nottingham teaches degree courses in all aspects of ancient Greece and Rome, and runs an outreach programme to help introduce pupils in local schools to our subject. Find out more about the department at: <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/classics/index.aspx>

We have enthusiastic students and staff who are keen to offer any of the following:

- **a Latin club**, for gifted and talented pupils, or for anyone who wants to do it, at primary level using the textbook *Minimus*, designed for primary schools and used in hundreds of schools all over the country, or at secondary level by negotiation. Learning Latin has also been shown to help with literacy problems.
- **enrichment sessions** on the ancient world, its myths, history and culture, including hands-on activities
- **taster days** on campus at University Park, usually as follow-up to either of the above, in which pupils look around the University, do activities relating to Greece and Rome run by current students, and visit the University Museum.

If you think your school might benefit from these opportunities, or you would like to discuss other possibilities, please do get in touch. We are currently running three *Minimus* clubs, and working with various schools in the area and elsewhere. We don't charge any fees and can help with applications for grants to purchase textbooks.

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