

THE OLD OPERATING THEATRE, MUSEUM AND HERB GARRET MUSEUM POLICY STATEMENT

AIM

The aim of the museum is to contribute to the understanding of the development of medical knowledge with particular emphasis on the history of the Old Operating Theatre, the Herb Garret, and the history of St Thomas' and Guys Hospitals.

The museum is also concerned with the history of St. Thomas' Church, and to place the Church, and Hospitals in their historical context.

AUDIENCE

The museum will interpret the building and collections for the general public. It will also make a special effort to attract visits from schools, medical and nursing colleges and the medical profession. The Museum will also seek to encourage visits from local people.

ACCESSIBILITY

The Museum will seek to make the museum, education service and its displays accessible to the widest possible audience irrespective of disabilities within the Museum's available resources.

DISPLAYS

The historic environment is of fundamental importance and all displays should be constructed with this in mind. The displays should provide the essential background necessary to allow the visitor to understand the building and its medical, social, historical and architectural functions. Further more detailed information should also be made available as a complement to the main displays.

COLLECTIONS

The Museum will collect, document, conserve, store and display objects relating to the aims of the museums as detailed above, in conjunction with other museums and following professional museum practice and outlined in the Museum's Acquisitions and Disposal Policy.

EDUCATION

The museum will offer an education service to the general public, schools, colleges and medical organisations and endeavour to open the museum to such groups whenever possible.

OPENING HOURS

The museum will maintain its present opening hours and try to open at other times if possible.

CONSERVATION

Professional advice on improving the environment for museum objects will be taken on a regular basis and steps taken to improve the environment and conserve those objects in need of it.

STAFFING & RESOURCESS

Staffing and Resources need to set at such levels that take into account not only the need to fulfill the Museum's duties to the visiting public but also to maintain a level of museum curation consistent with the Museum's registration under the Resource: Museum Registration scheme.

Kevin Flude Director

Revised Monday, 6th November, 2001 Revised 20th November 1992, and 23 April 1992