

## Practical information for your visit

- We can take up to 30 children per visit. The minimum school staff/child ratio is 1:10. **Teachers are responsible for the behaviour of pupils at all times.**
- The visit is suitable for disabled visitors but please let us know the nature of the disability prior to your visit so we can ensure that all visitors' needs are met. **If your group includes a wheelchair user, we must know in advance so that we can provide support for evacuation in case of fire.**
- A risk assessment of your visit has been completed. If you haven't received it with your booking information please contact us on [education@wrwa.gov.uk](mailto:education@wrwa.gov.uk)
- A designated adult must remain at the back of your group as we move around the site, for health and safety reasons/
- The children will be able to leave bags and coats in a securely locked room during the visit.
- You are welcome to eat packed lunches in our classroom after your visit. We encourage all classes to bring Waste Free Lunches as far as possible.

## Directions and travel information

The address of the site is: Western Riverside Transfer Station, Smugglers Way, London SW18 1JS. **When you arrive at the site please call us on 020 8875 8885/9 and we will collect you to start your tour.**

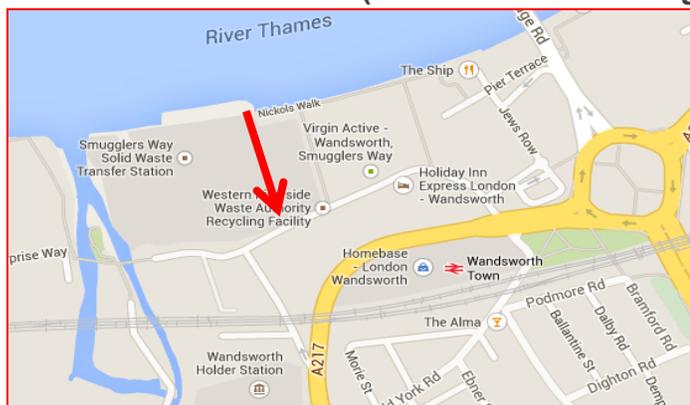
### **Arriving by public transport**

The nearest station is Wandsworth Town (10 minute walk). Buses 28, 295, C3 and 44 stop nearby

### **Arriving by coach or minibus**

Parking is available on site for a minibus or coach (driver must remain on site). Please let us know in advance if you need parking on site.

**(Please wait inside the gate, shown below, on the paved area by the trees)**



## What will your class see at the centre?

Our Smugglers Way site handles the rubbish and recycling from four London Boroughs, during your visit your class will see how the waste is sorted and dealt with for recycling or disposal. We want to encourage a positive shift in the way in which people deal with their waste. School parties can visit our exciting Education Centre to learn more about waste and recycling and start to think differently about what they throw away – and see the facility in action!

A visit to the centre takes between **1 ½ to 2 ½ hours excluding lunch (depending on your choice of activities)** and is led by the WRWA Education Officers.

### Visit itinerary

**A Brief History of Waste – (10 mins):** Here the children will explore the history of waste disposal, learning that waste disposal has always been a problem for humans. They'll begin to appreciate the scale of the problem and connect it with their own lives.

**The Tipping Hall – (10 mins):** From our viewing room, your class will see and hear how rubbish is handled at the site, and find out how our actions, and what we throw away, contribute to climate change.

**Reduce, Reuse and Recycle workshop – (40 minutes):** After summarising all of the negative effects waste can have on our planet that we have discussed so far (e.g. pollution, depleting resources, and the adverse effects on our wildlife), we will leave behind the negatives and concentrate on the positives.

We will discuss the 3R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) and go through each, exploring simple and practical ways that we can each help our environment. We will discuss exactly what goes in the recycling bin, and what they will be turned into. Then your class will watch a short video explaining how our sorting machines (which can be seen through large viewing windows in the education room) process 350 tonnes of recycling a day; dividing them into their separate materials.

After the video the children are given a chance to explore the education room's resources, with recycled materials for them to touch, and views of our sorting machines in action. They will also put on hard hats and high vis jackets ready to go outside.

**The Riverside Walkway – (30 minutes):** We will visit our re-use garden and wormery. Children will learn how much food waste we produce in this country and the effect that has on our environment. They will learn how composting can help prevent food waste. They will also get a chance to see how easy it is to grow your own fruit and vegetables with fresh compost and how little space is needed to do it.

We then go up to a wonderful high level vantage point to view container cranes loading waste containers onto barges for transportation downriver to an "Energy from Waste" facility.

## Extending your trip with a craft activity

Our craft activities are a great way to reinforce the messages learned from our tour. We can also deliver these in school as a follow up to your visit, if time is restricted on the day. These activities must be booked before you visit so that we can prepare materials in advance.

### Paper Making Workshop (45 minutes) for KS1 or KS2

Back in the Education room, your class will learn about the paper recycling process, and get a chance to recreate it on a smaller scale. They will also learn about deforestation and how to look out for recycled paper products in future. Your class will be given the chance to recycle old paper into new paper.

They will work in teams to become “paper factories”, and time permitting each child will have a piece of paper to take home (for KS1, we may make only one or two per group; this can be decided at the time depending on your group). You will take the wet paper back to school (we will pack it into a waterproof bag for you, or if you would like to bring a bag to use please do), it takes a day or so to dry once spread out again.

Accompanying adults will need to help the children with this workshop, particularly for KS1.

### Michael Recycle workshop (40 minutes) for EYFS or KS1

Back in the Education room, the children listen to the story of Michael Recycle, a recycling superhero. We discuss how we can all become recycling superheroes by doing our bit to recycle as much as possible, and encouraging others to do so too.

Children then decorate their own recycled card superhero using reused paper and fabric scraps. We provide all materials for this workshop, but it may be useful to bring a bag to take the superheroes back to school.

## Follow up activities for after your trip

We hope your class enjoyed their visit to us. Here are a few ideas for follow up activities, and other resources and organisations that you might find helpful.

**We can visit you at school to run any of our workshops as a follow up activity. We can also visit you to help you carry out a waste audit, a food waste audit, or deliver assemblies to the whole school. Please email us to arrange this.**

### **Numeracy:**

Have a waste audit in your classroom – look through the rubbish and recycling bin (with gloves), and see what is in there. Sort it into different materials and make charts of the materials in each type of bin. (For a larger scale waste audit, we can provide help and equipment)

Are there any things in the wrong bin? What can you do to put this right? Measure again after a week and compare your results.

### **Literacy:**

Imagine you are a plastic bottle, and write your life story. Who buys you, and what happens next, will you become a fantastic piece of furniture, or will you head down the river on a barge...?

Create an assembly for the rest of your school about Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. What facts can you remember from your trip to include in it?

### **Art:**

What can you create from your old rubbish? Can you make a superhero like Octobot? Or a class orchestra?

Design a poster to tell people about what can be recycled, or how to reduce their waste.

### **Other organisations:**

[Work and Play Scrapstore](#) - a charity that redistributes surplus and waste materials to members for art and craft projects; they also deliver workshops and activities in school.

[TRAID](#) - offers free education programmes to schools, educating children about the impact of our clothes on people and the environment.

### **Useful websites:**

<http://www.recyclenow.com/schools/> - (you need to register for this part of the site but it is free and easy to do) There are lesson plans and activities for different Key Stages on this site.

[www.wrwa.gov.uk/schools/](http://www.wrwa.gov.uk/schools/) - our website has lots of information and practical advice on the 3Rs, at home and at school, and facts from your visit.

<http://www.thecraftycrow.net/recycled/> - some great recycled craft ideas.