



Your School Trip to Western Riverside Waste Authority (2021-2022)

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
- A designated adult **MUST** remain at the back of your group as we move around the site, for health and safety reasons **PLUS** an allocated adult **MUST** hold doors open for the children.

Directions and travel information

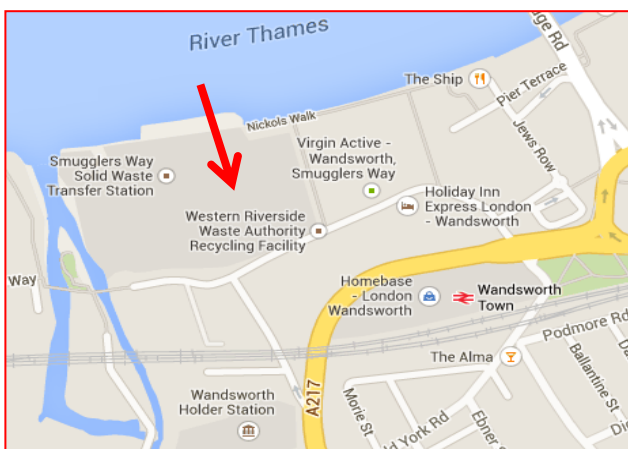
The address of the site is: Western Riverside Transfer Station, Smugglers Way, London SW18 1JS. **Our entrance is now via the pedestrian gate. The safest place to wait is on Waterside Path, which is in between our site and Virgin Active and please call us on 020 8875 8885/9, we will collect you to start 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.



Waterside Path

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. You will see the waste handling process from start to finish, and get a sense of the scale of the problem of waste. Our key messages for the day are the importance of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle and taking personal responsibility for our waste and looking after our environment.

A visit to the centre will take about **1 hour** and is fully led by our Education Officers. Please come wearing Hi Vis if your school already has them.

Visit itinerary

A Brief History of Waste (10 min's): 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. If not already wearing Hi Vis they will put it on to move around the site.

The Tipping Hall – (5 min's): 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 – (30 minutes): After summarising all of the negatives 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.

The Riverside Walkway – (15 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

We can provide recycled card, Plastic Pledge, Superhero or Fox bookmark templates, for you to take away and do as an in-school or home activity. Please let us know and please bring an A4 envelope/pocket or container to carry them away in.

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.

Numeracy:

Have a home waste audit - look through your 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. 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:

[Plogolution](#) – a local organisation that work with schools to set up Plogging Clubs where children run and litter pick at the same time. They can run assemblies and introductory sessions in school free of charge.

[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/ - our website has lots of information and practical advice on the 3Rs, at home and at school, and facts from your visit including online Learning worksheets.