



# Your School Trip to Western Riverside Waste Authority (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](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.
- Please wear High Vis jackets if your class has access to them. Otherwise we can provide them.

## Directions and travel information

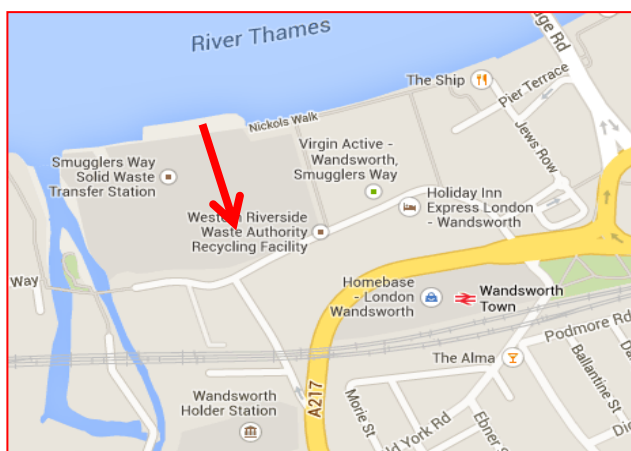
The address of the site is: Western Riverside Transfer Station, Smugglers Way, London SW18 1JS. **Our entrance is now via the pedestrian gate. The safest place to wait is on Waterside Path, which is in between our site and Virgin Active and please call us on: 020 8875 8885/9, we will collect you to start 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: 1000 Tonnes of General Waste being tipped into shipping containers and loaded by giant box cranes onto our barges by the riverside, ready to be taken to the Energy from Waste plant at the end of the day.

350 Tonnes of Recycling going through our sorting machines, being separated by its material type, and then baled and stacked ready to be sent on. Your class will see the sorting machines from our Education Room. They will also see the sorted bales of materials as we walk around the site.

We will have a discussion about the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) in our Education Room. Discussing the importance of wasting less, where the materials we use come from, and the effects waste can have on the environment.

There is also a short video which explains how the sorting machines work, and which also shows the Energy from Waste plant where the General Waste is being sent to.

Finally there will be a chance for your class to explore the Education Room, with its “Dig In” displays, views of the sorting machines, our plastic lid crushing machine, and more.

There are toilets just by our education room for your class to use before heading back to school. The entire tour about 1 hour 15 min's. You are welcome to stay on for half an hour for lunch in the Education Room after the tour.

### Questions in advance

**Here are some questions that will be answered on the tour, which you can give to your pupils to look out for along the way:**

- How many Lorries visit us every day?
- Where does the 'General Waste' get sent to?
- What 5 materials can go in the Recycling?
- What are the 3 R's? (The order is important!)
- In the UK, how much of the food we buy goes in the bin?

## 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:**

[Plog-olution](#) – 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.

[Pupils Profit](#) – Eco-Refill initiative - Children can actively reduce plastic waste through operating an Eco Refill Shop at School!

Pupils will refill products like hand wash, body wash and washing up liquid for the school community, using eco-friendly, affordable products which are returned to the supplier for refilling.

### **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 including online Learning worksheets.