

EcoPark House: Primary School Visit Teacher Guide

Meet the Team

Our Education team is here to make sure your students have a fantastic time during their visit at EcoPark House.

Our team is made up of friendly and experienced professionals who are passionate about circular economy education and making every school visit memorable.

All members of the NLWA Education Team have enhanced DBS checks and have completed safeguarding training.

The designated safeguarding officers for the team are Lizzie King and Luke Ellis-Bailey.

Should you have any concerns, please report them using following the link to our online reporting form.

Our Educational Programme

At EcoPark House, we offer a variety of curriculum-linked and engaging workshops.

- Half-Day Visits: Students can take part in the *Beyond the Bin* workshop along with a guided tour.
- Full-Day Visits: Choose from one of our additional workshops designed to complement the National Curriculum.

Our workshops link to several areas of the curriculum, including:

- Designing to a brief and joining materials in design technology
- Distribution of natural resources and economy activity in geography
- Properties of materials and human impact on the environment in Science

Workshop title: *Beyond the Bin*

Length: 30–40-minute workshop

Suitable for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

National Curriculum links: Science and Geography

Overview

Students will learn about the journey of their waste and recycling. Through a variety of activities, they will also start to investigate the concept of the circular economy and understand the importance of the 4Rs.

Tour of the Resource Recovery Facility

Length: 45-minute tour

Suitable for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

National Curriculum links: Science and Geography

Overview

Led by a member of the NLWA Education Team, students will have the chance to explore behind the scenes at the tipping hall and the recycling and reuse centre.

Please be aware that we may need to divide larger groups due to capacity limitations.

Workshop title: Reuse

Length: 45-minute tour

Suitable for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

National Curriculum links: Geography and Design Technology

Overview

In this session, students will learn about the environmental impact of either single-use items (for KS1) or textile waste (for KS2).

Based on the age group, students will either create their own t-shirt tote bag or a plastic bottle bird feeder.

Workshop title: Repair

Length: 45-minute tour

Suitable for Key Stage 2

National Curriculum links: Geography and Design Technology

Overview

Students will develop an understanding of the environmental impact of fast fashion and discuss the importance of repair.

They will then learn basic repair skills that they can use at home.

Workshop title: Waste City

Length: 45-minute tour

Suitable for Year 5 and 6

National Curriculum links: Geography and Design Technology

Overview

Students will collaborate in teams to develop a plan aimed at making Waste City a zero-waste environment.

By the end of the day, students will gain a solid understanding of the circular economy and its practical implementation.

Ensuring inclusive and accessible visits

We have worked with the Lightyear Foundation to ensure our visits are inclusive and accessible to all visitors who are neurodivergent or disabled.

Our programme can be tailored to the needs of your group and focuses on three core concepts: the journey of waste, working in waste, and the circular economy.

We can tailor visits to suit the needs of your students. We recommend two to three learning themes to explore on your visit.

Our learning themes include:

What is waste?

Discuss why people throw things away and how that impacts our environment.

Which bin should I put it in?

Learn about which items should be put in the recycling and rubbish bins.

What happens to my recycling?

Explore the sorting process of recycling and begin to discuss the properties of materials.

What happens on a waste site?

Learn about what happens to your rubbish and how we get it ready to be turned into energy.

How do we turn waste into energy?

Find out about how we use waste to create electricity to power north London homes.

How can I reuse things to help the environment?

Uncover ways to reuse items to avoid throwing them away.

Why are the 3Rs so important?

Recognise what the 3Rs stand for and why they are important to follow.

What does a circular economy look like?

Investigate how the circular economy can help the environment.

Access arrangements and adjustments

Some key accessibility factors of the building include:

- Ramp access
- Lift access
- Accessible toilet
- Evac chair and assistance help points.

Before your visit, we can provide:

- A risk assessment
- 'My visit to EcoPark House' social story
- Tour route familiarisation video
- Staff pictures and bios

During your visit, we can provide:

- A quiet corner
- Ear defenders and sensory bags
- Communication boards
- Visual timetable

Please let the team know of any adjustments we can make when booking your visit for your students.

Sample itinerary

Below is an example of full-day visit itinerary:

Time	Activity
10:30am	Arrival and check-in
10:45am	Beyond the Bin workshop
11:30am	Tour
12:15pm	Lunch
1:00pm	Afternoon workshop
2:00pm	Round-up and goodbyes
2:15pm	Return to school

We are happy to adapt the visit to suit the needs of your group.

Please contact our Education team directly with your enquiry by emailing education@nlwa.gov.uk

Booking FAQs

How do I book?

You enquire following this link to our [booking enquiry form](#) or by emailing education@nlwa.gov.uk. A member of the Education team will get back to you via email within five working days to confirm your visit or offer an alternate date.

How many students can I bring?

We can accommodate up to 30 students on site. Smaller groups (fewer than 15 pupils) may be accepted, subject to availability.

For special schools or specialist settings, we can welcome up to 15 pupils per visit.

When can I book for?

Our [booking form](#) shows availability of bookings. We have limited availability so booking early is encouraged!

If a date is not available, you can sign up to [our waitlist](#) to be notified when future dates are released.

How much does a visit cost?

Our educational sessions are **free** of charge to schools in Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington, and Waltham Forest.

For schools outside of these boroughs, please email education@nlwa.gov.uk to find out more about the cost of a visit.

Can we do a pre-visit risk assessment?

The Education team can provide you with our risk assessment. However, we welcome and encourage teachers, and trip leads, to come for a pre-visit to support risk assessment completion. The booking form has an option to book a risk assessment visit.

How many accompanying adults can I bring?

We recommend the following ratio for your visit:

Ages 5-7 (UK Key Stage 1) 1 leader for every 6 students (1:6).

Ages 7-11 (UK Key Stage 2) 1 leader for every 10 students (1:10)

If you require additional adults to provide 1-to-1 support, please include them in your numbers.

Please note, we can only accommodate 2-3 adults per group on tours. If you have any questions, please email the Education team and we will be happy to help.

How to get to EcoPark House

We strongly advise trying out your route by public transport before visiting.

Travelling by bus

We recommend taking either the No. 34 bus (Barnet to Walthamstow Bus Station) or the No. 444 bus (Turnpike Lane Bus Station to Chingford Station). Both buses stop at the Harbet Road, Cooks Ferry stop. From there, it is a short walk to EcoPark House.

Please note, it may require crossing the A406 to reach EcoPark House. We recommend using the footbridge on advent way to cross at a later bus stop.

Travelling by train

The nearest station is Greater Anglia's Meridian Water, about an 18-minute walk away, with services from Stratford and Bishops Stortford. Other nearby stations include Edmonton Green and Silver Street, both served by the TfL London Overground, with connections from London Liverpool Street, Enfield Town, and Cheshunt.

Travelling by coach or minibus

Due to a **7.5tn weight limit** on the bridge, it is essential to notify the Team if you will be travelling by coach.

For vehicles **under 7.5tns**, the best address to give a driver is:

1 Lee Park Way

Edmonton

London

N18 3BJ

What Three Words: `///than.fast.heavy`

For vehicles **over 7.5tns**, please use the postcode N18 3AG or these three words:

`///corns.ruins.effort` to access the South Gate Entrance.

On the day

What do I need to bring?

We ask that you provide us with a register of students attending, in case of emergency.

Please note, you will need to bring the following for these specific workshops:

- Reuse (KS1) requires a single-use plastic bottle per student; and
- Reuse (KS2) requires an old t-shirt (no holes) per student.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask a member of the Education team.

What do we when we arrive?

If travelling by public transport, please follow signs for the EcoPark House. You will arrive at the security hut where the adults in your group will be required to sign in.

After signing in, the security team will direct you to EcoPark House where a member of the Education team will be waiting to greet you.

If you are travelling by coach or minibus, a NLWA officer will meet you outside EcoPark House. Please note, you will have to be signed in at the security hut.

What happens if we are running late?

Please try and arrive on time but if you are running late, let us know as soon as possible by contacting us via email or by phoning your session lead.

The session lead contact details will be shared two days prior to your visit.

Please note, we may have to adjust your sessions, and this could result in the tour being cancelled or an activity being cut short.

On the day FAQs

Is there a shop or a cafe at EcoPark House?

Unfortunately, we do not have a cafe or shop on site. There are tea and coffee making facilities at EcoPark House for the adults accompanying the trip.

What do we do with our coats/bags?

When you arrive, the team will direct you to the Lecture Hall where you can leave bags and coats. We recommend you keep valuables on your person during the visit.

NLWA is not responsible for any loss, damage, or theft of personal property whilst on site.

Are there lunch facilities we can use?

You are welcome to have your lunch either on the terrace outside or in our Exhibition Hall. We try and encourage zero-waste lunches, but we know that this sometimes isn't possible. All we ask is that you ensure your waste is placed in the correct bin!

Is photography/filming permitted on site?

Feel free to take pictures during your sessions at EcoPark House. We ask that you avoid taking photographs with members of the operations team in them.

Filming is not permitted at any point.

During the tour, the NLWA officer will let you know when you can take photos.

If you are unsure, please check with an NLWA officer.

After your visit

How can I give feedback?

We welcome feedback to help ensure our programmes meet the needs of north London schools. Following your trip, you will receive a feedback form within one week.

If you wish to make a complaint, please use our [enquiry form](#).

What are the 'Be More Ned & Nancy' challenges and how do we submit updates?

After your visit, we would encourage you to select at least one class challenge to complete with your students. This is aimed to continue the conversation about waste prevention once your visit is complete. You'll be asked to submit which challenges you have selected in the feedback form.

We run termly competitions for schools who have completed their class challenges with fantastic prizes up for grabs!

For a chance to win, please submit your challenges via our [submission form](#)

When will I receive the follow up materials?

Within three working days of completing the feedback form, the Education team will email the follow-up resources.

How should I use the follow-up materials?

The follow-up materials are designed to be used in class or set as learning from home. It is up to you how best to use them; they are there to support a continued discussion around the issues and solutions we discuss during your visit.

If you have any questions, please reach out to a member of our Education team.