

Waste and Recycling Site Visits

Thank you for your interest to visit to the Brunel Road Recycling Centre, Newton Abbot and Heathfield landfill site.

This visit is available for year 3 pupils and above in April, May and June and due to weather conditions, we recommend that only year 4 and above pupils visit during September and October. As these visits are so popular, we are restricting them to one visit per school per educational year. Due to the nature of the visit we have a maximum size restriction of 28 pupils and these must be accompanied by 4 adults (school total of 32 people). See notes below for more details, please discuss these with Heidi if you have any queries.

Itinerary for the visit

10.30am - Arrive at Brunel Road Recycling Centre, Newton Abbot – Your coach/minibus will be directed to a parking area in the Recycling Centre. There is enough space for a 52 seater coach to park and to drive out without needing to turn around.

10.35 am – Introduction and Health and Safety talk.

10.45am – Tour of Recycling Centre – Pupils will be split into 2 groups. One group will be shown around the Recycling Centre where they will see all the different collection points for recyclable materials and discover what they can be recycled into. You might like to bring along glass bottles and jars as younger children like to smash them inside the glass banks at the Recycling Centre. At the same time, the other group will see the green waste area and visit the resale shop area, where they will see Reuse at its best! Then the groups will rotate.

11.45am - 12.30 Lunch Break at Forde House gardens, Teignbridge District Council Offices. Pupils will be able to use toilet and hand washing facilities before eating lunch in the gardens. In the case of bad weather, pupils maybe allowed to sit in the main hall of Old Forde House depending on its availability.

Please note that Council staff will be working in Old Forde House so pupils must be quiet during lunchtime.

12.45pm – Arrive at Heathfield Landfill site, near Kingsteignton.

At Heathfield landfill site, the group will be split into two and taken by minibus onto the landfill site. We will regroup at a safe cordoned off area to see a bird of prey display. Please do not tell the children about this as we cannot guarantee the birds will be able to fly if the weather is wet or too windy. After this they will have chance to watch lorries unloading rubbish on the landfill ‘hill’ and then have a guided tour around the compost area.

2.30pm - Depart Heathfield and return to school

As you can see, this visit is a fantastic opportunity for the children (and adults!) and we have had lots of positive feedback from previous groups. It really does make all the difference to the children’s learning if they experience the sights, sounds and smells of waste in all its forms!

Please note the following points before requesting a visit:

Supervision

- Adult supervision: a maximum of 28 pupils will need 4 adults (total of 32 people from the school). If you are bringing less children we still need a minimum of 4 adults as we split the group into two.
- If an individual pupil has particular (behavioural or physical) needs, an adult will be required to stay with this pupil at all times during the visit in addition to the above ratio. Therefore 27 children plus 5 adults will be required.
- Please ensure that the non-teaching adult helpers are aware that they might be required to supervise / discipline children as the group will be split during the visit.
- Teachers / group leaders are responsible for the supervision, behaviour, control and discipline of the group at all times, they must ensure that pupils obey all instructions given by the DCC Officers. The DCC Officers reserve the right to terminate the visit at any time during the day if they feel that any Health and Safety considerations are being breached by an individual's behaviour.

Health and Safety

- Normally children under the age of 16 are not allowed to walk around the recycling centre due to its dangerous nature. At the start of the visit the pupils and adults will be given a health and safety talk and issued with high visibility jackets for safety.
- Heathfield landfill site is not open to the public due to health and safety reasons - we have special permission to go there. Whilst all precautions have and will be taken, it is of the up most importance that the children behave and listen to all instructions given to them.
- All pupils and adults must wear stout, enclosed footwear (no open sandals, crocs or flip flops). Any children without adequate footwear will be asked to stay in the coach/minibus, accompanied by an adult. If this means the number of adults with the main group of children is insufficient, then the visit will be terminated.
- Please ensure the children come with weather appropriate clothing. Sun hats and lotions are required on sunny days as we will be outside all the time and there is no shelter.
- The Lead Officer reserves the right to terminate the visit at any time during the day if they feel that any health and safety considerations have been breached.

When the visit date has been confirmed, you will be sent risk assessments for each site. These need to be read, signed and given back to me at the start of the visit.

Any problems on the day, my mobile is 07976 289246.

Please contact Heidi Diepold, Waste Education Officer, Devon County Council, heidi.diepold@devon.gov.uk or 01392 382920.