

School Visits Pack

The East Somerset Railway

Bringing history to life...

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The Basics

Cost per pupil: £5

Adult places: one free adult per 10 pupils. (larger groups by negotiation)

Availability: Wednesdays only. April-October Half Term

Facilities: Free all day car-parking (free cuppa for drivers!)

- Accessible toilets - Cafe - Shop - Wet-weather provision

LEARNING OPTIONS

A maximum of six options is recommended, depending on the length of visit

Themes Popular themes to tie in your curriculum planning	Additional Special Sessions A one-off session to include in your visit	Site Attractions Each attraction counts as one session
Evacuees Somerset's evacuee trains in WW2	Victorians and Influenza The case of Benjamin Parker	Miniature Railway
Victorians Impact of the Industrial Revolution	Life in Shepton Prison Isaac Perrett at His Majesty's Pleasure	Signal Box
Brunel and the West Country IKB and his impact across the region	Railway Roles What job would YOU do best?	Engine Shed
Powder Kegs & Protest Shepton Mallet's troubled times	Conservation in Africa African themes of conservation	Sentinel Diesel Museum
Women & the Railways 130 years of surprising railway women	Stationmaster's Trail Hunt the Whistle and Name a Train	
Transport through time Turnpikes, canals and trains	Handling Evidence Touch, smell and enquiry skills	
Home Front & the Bristol Blitz WW2 in Somerset		

Learning Styles and Learning Spaces

The majority of your visit will be outside; where you choose a classroom-style session, facilities and interactive activities.

Across the visit, varied learning styles are accommodated and the team champion the 'learning outside the classroom' ethos.



Safeguarding and Group Size

The Education Team ensure that they are not alone with any individual pupil or in an isolated or enclosed space. The school must provide at least 1 member of staff per group. School behaviour policy is the responsibility of the school's representatives and the Education Team will not enforce any aspect of the school's behavioural policy. The pupil/teacher ratio should be 10/1 minimum please.

Staff Experience

The majority of our Education Team are volunteers who have great experience as museum educators and/or teachers. All members of the team are dedicated to ensuring all visiting schools receive a high quality visit which enhances the learning experience of the pupils involved.

Sample Schedule

Below is a sample schedule for a visit completed in 2021. We try our best to work with schools to create a day which works within the boundaries of the school day and what The East Somerset Railway can deliver.

Group	10am	1030-1045am	11am	1130	1145	1210	1230-1310	1315	1335	1355
1	Arrive, loos, into groups	Billeting	Train ride	Engine shed tour* 1	Engine shed tour: self-guided	Signal Box & Miniature railway	Lunch	Bristol Blitz	Hands-on artefacts	Regroup & depart
2		Billeting		Continue to Cranmore	Bristol Blitz	Engine shed tour		Hands-on artefacts	Signal box & miniature railway	
3		Billeting		Continue to Cranmore	Signal Box & Miniature railway*2	Hands-on artefacts		Engine Shed tour: self-guided	Bristol Blitz	
4		Billeting		Continue to Cranmore	Hands-on artefacts	Bristol Blitz		Signal Box & miniature railway	Engine Shed tour: self-guided	
*1 Group 1 to get off train at Engine Shed *2 If wet & Miniature railway is not running, half of this group would be split amongst other groups										

