

Ewden Wastewater Education Centre

This leaflet contains information to help you get the best out of your visit to Yorkshire Water. We aim to provide you with an exciting and informative experience, bringing to life how wastewater is treated and returned safely back to the environment whilst showcasing science, technology, engineering and maths in the workplace.

Education Centre Advisers

Our Education Centre visits are run by dedicated colleagues who either have a water industry or educational background. Our Education Advisers are well-prepared to adapt language and activities to suit all our visitors – whether it be primary, secondary, university students or special interest groups. Each member of the team has received an enhanced certificate from the Disclosure and Barring Service. For visits comprising of primary school students, there will usually be a minimum of two Education Advisers leading the session. All groups are asked to bring a minimum of **1 adult to every 8 students under 16 years of age**.

Education Centre Visits

Our visits are suitable for all ages from 8 years upwards and aimed at Year 4 and above. Visitors with additional needs are welcomed at Ewden Wastewater Treatment Works. Wheelchair access is available throughout most of the tour but there are stairs to specific viewing platforms which a wheelchair user will be unable to access due to the structure of the treatment works. We do not have a disabled toilet facilities on site.

We open the Education Centre for pre-planned visits only. Visit co-ordinators wishing to undertake a pre-visit check/risk assessment should contact our Education Team to make suitable arrangements. The treatment works has a designated area for visits and toilets are available.

For visitors taking part in one of our full day programmes, lunch will be eaten in the classroom at Ewden Wastewater Treatment Works.

Safety on Site

Please note that the Education Centre is located at an operational Yorkshire Water treatment works and as such we implement safety precautions. We have prepared a risk assessment for your information and can confirm that our Health and Safety Team have authorised the route taken by visitors.

Students and adults are advised to wear suitable footwear and clothing. Suitable footwear means a full shoe with a firm sole – no high heels, sandals, flip flops or mules allowed. **Please wear warm, outdoor clothing as the tour of the treatment works is all undertaken outside, and long-sleeved tops/jumpers and long trousers are compulsory. Please do not wear skirts or shorts when visiting this site.**

Hi-vis waistcoats, safety helmets, glasses and gloves will be made available for the tour and are compulsory.

Visiting groups are asked to bring a qualified First Aider.

A basic first aid kit is available at the Education Centre should you require it.

Risk is very limited. Visitors are always chaperoned by our Education Advisers. Barriers and mesh separate visitors from any areas of high hazard. A safety talk is given at the start of every session and is compulsory.

Please be aware that this is a working site. Visit co-ordinators should note that our site is fully operational and occasionally incidents do occur which may affect the treatment process and our planned tour of the site. Tours may be halted during periods when deliveries are being made to the site.

Contractors may be on site undertaking building work. We will ensure a safe tour in all circumstances and will cease tours, or parts of it, if necessary, to ensure visitor safety.

Our education centres are located on operational treatment works, which are no-smoking/no vaping locations. Any tours where individuals are found to be smoking or vaping on site will be cancelled with immediate effect.

Pre-Visit Work for Educational Visits

Teachers may wish to arrange pre-visit work for their students during class time, however a basic understanding of the water cycle is our minimum requirement. Downloadable resources are available on the Yorkshire Water website, or you can order a class resource pack. **When you make your booking, we will email you a link to our booking portal. Please complete the form so we can correctly prepare for your session.**

The work covered in your visit has been structured to address the following key requirements of the National Curriculum Scheme of Work.

GEOGRAPHY Rivers
Water Cycle

SCIENCE State of Matter
Properties & Changes in Materials

We have designed the centre and visit to provide many opportunities for stimulating extension work across the curriculum, including Literacy and Numeracy.

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR:	LOCATION:	ASSESSMENT UNDERTAKEN
Education Centre Site Visit	Ewden Wastewater Treatment Works & Classroom	April 2025

HAZARDS	THOSE AT RISK	EXISTING CONTROLS	FURTHER ACTION & ACCOUNTABILITY
1. General Site Activity	Visitors	<p>Visitors will be accompanied by trained & experienced Education Advisers, who are enhanced DBS checked and have undertaken first aid and fire marshal training.</p> <p>Two Education Advisers will be present for a standard primary school class.</p> <p>Site Operators or Contractors may be present on the operational site but will not be with any visitors. Operators & Contractors are unlikely to be Enhanced DBS checked.</p>	<p>Education Advisers will teach the session.</p> <p>School staff are asked to monitor behaviour and always accompany students during the session.</p>
2. Site Access/Supervision	Visitors	<p>Please bring 1 adult for every 8 students (under 16).</p> <p>A safety induction talk will take place at the start of each visit.</p> <p>The site tour is not wholly suitable for wheelchair users due to the various steps needed to access the viewing platforms.</p> <p>The toilet facilities for site visits are not wheelchair friendly. There is no disabled toilet facility.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Group leaders to adhere to adult: student ratio & note the site is not suitable for wheelchair users.</p>
3. Coach	Visitors	<p>On arrival, coaches must pull up at the designated unloading point for visitors to transfer into the classroom.</p> <p>The coach should then proceed to the identified coach parking area and park with the vehicle facing the exit.</p> <p>The coach driver must remove keys from ignition once parked up and should not start the vehicle again until the group is ready to leave.</p> <p>On completion of the visit, the coach can pull up to collect the visitors before leaving site.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Group leaders to ensure the coach company/driver are fully aware of our requirements for arrival and departure.</p> <p>Coach drivers must ensure the keys are removed from ignition during the visit.</p> <p>Drivers are welcome to sit in the classroom area.</p>
4. Visitors leaving the main tour groups during the session	Visitors	<p>Students and adults must stay with their tour groups during the Education visits.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Group leaders to ensure the adequate supervision of students and adults.</p>
5. Slips/Trips and Falls (Slippery/Uneven Floors)	Visitors	<p>A pre-determined route is walked prior to each visit by the Education Advisers to identify any possible hazards.</p> <p>Hazard markings are placed if they are required.</p> <p>Away from the main building, all visitors must stay on designated paths.</p> <p>A First Aid Kit is available in the Education Centre.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Tour groups should include a designated First Aider.</p> <p>Group leaders to ensure all visitors adhere to designated routes/paths.</p>

6. Slips/Trips and Falls (Falls from Height)	Visitors	Barriers and mesh are installed throughout the pre-determined route in the wastewater treatment works. Some areas of the tour route may involve walking on metal grids and stairs.	Action: Group leaders to inform their party that some walk areas involve metal grids and heights.
7. Slips/Trips and Falls	Visitors	Students and adults MUST wear sensible shoes, long trousers and long-sleeved tops/jumpers. Please ensure all visitors bring appropriate outdoor clothing as the tour is completed outdoors. Visitors not wearing appropriate clothing will not be allowed on the site tour and will be restricted to the classroom/toilet areas. Hi-vis waistcoats, safety helmets, glasses and gloves will be made available for tour visits and are compulsory.	Action: Group leaders to ensure all visitors wear sensible footwear, long trousers and long-sleeved tops/jumpers and wear PPE on the tour comprising of hi-vis waistcoats, safety helmets, glasses, and gloves. Suitable footwear means a full shoe with a firm sole – no high heels, sandals, flip flops or mules allowed.
8. Site Maintenance / Building Work	Visitors	A pre-determined route is walked prior to each visit by the Education Advisers to identify any possible hazards. YW Operators and Contract Partners are informed that visitors are on site.	Action: Group leaders are to inform their party that maintenance work may be undertaken, and contractors could be on site.
9. Food Hygiene & Lunchtime Supervision	Visitors	There are no lunchtime facilities on site for visiting groups attending a half-day session (morning or afternoon). Lunch facilities for full day visits will be provided and the tour party are asked to eat in the designated classroom area. Visitors are required to wash their hands (or use hand gel) prior to and after eating lunch. Tour co-ordinators are responsible for supervising their group during this period. As Ewden Wastewater Treatment Works is an operational site with vehicles & plant being moved, there are no play facilities outside. Education staff are asked to supervise toilet visits by all students.	Action: Group leaders to be responsible for supervision of their party at lunchtime. No movement outside of the education centre unless supervised visits to the designated toilet facilities. Teaching staff must accompany students to the toilet facilities and supervise when in use. If having lunch in the centre, all visitors must wash their hands or use hand gel prior to and after eating. Please bring sufficient hand gel for your group.
10. Moving Parts	Visitors	A pre-determined route is walked prior to the tour to identify possible hazards. Guards are in place to prevent visitors from making contact with the machinery.	Action: Group leaders to instruct all visitors not to touch the machinery.
11. Vehicles and Vehicle Movement	Visitors	On arrival, please adhere to site speed limits and wait to be met by the Education Team at the specified car park. Visitors must stay on the designated pathways and always use crossing points. Visitors are required to wear personal protective equipment during site tours which are compulsory.	Action: Group leaders to remind their party about road safety. Group leaders to ensure students are supervised whilst crossing any roads.
12. Fire/Explosion	Visitors	Education Advisers are briefed on the fire evacuation procedures.	Action: Group leaders to note emergency exits on arrival and follow

		<p>A Fire Risk Assessment is in place incorporating actions when visitors are on site.</p> <p>Escape Routes and signage are in place around the site.</p> <p>Our Education Advisers will wear gas monitoring equipment in line with company safety protocols for wastewater treatment works.</p>	instructions in the event of an emergency.
13. Electricity	Visitors	<p>Electrical items are PAT tested.</p> <p>Education Advisers and Teachers are to supervise students during practical educational activities.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Only PAT tested items to be used within the education centre.</p>
14. Drowning or engulfment	Visitors	<p>The designated tour route includes tanks with handrails and are in filled with mesh.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Group leaders must always ensure adequate supervision of students and adults.</p>
15. GDPR	Visitors	<p>Details of your visit are held on our secure booking system. When completing a booking enquiry, you will be asked to accept the Yorkshire Water privacy statement. Any information relating to your tour group should be submitted using the links provided and no names detailed.</p> <p>For adult tour groups not arriving by coach/minibus, you are required to provide a list of names so we can monitor access to our site. This will be securely destroyed following your visit.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Group leaders to complete all requests for information via the education booking portal.</p> <p>For adult groups only – Group leaders to provide a list of attendees.</p>
16. Smoking & vaping	Visitors	<p>This site is a 'no-smoking' and no 'vaping' location. Any tours where individuals are found to be smoking or vaping on site will be cancelled with immediate effect.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Group leaders to note that visits may be cancelled with immediate effect if individuals are found smoking/vaping on site.</p>