



Discover...

Didcot Sewage Treatment Works



Thanks for choosing to explore the wonderful world of water with us.

We can't wait to welcome you and your students to our site. Before you join us, we wanted to make sure you have all the information you'll need and give you a taste of what you can expect on the day.

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If you'd like to know more about visiting any of our education centres, you'll find plenty of information on [our website](#).

All our sites and visitors are unique, so you'll enjoy a truly one-of-a-kind experience.



1 What can I expect from my visit?

A visit to our education centre will give your students a deeper understanding and appreciation of our most precious resource. Most of our visits take place from 10am – 2pm, but specific timings may vary, and we're more than happy to help arrange a shorter visit if that works better for your group.

To give you an idea of what to expect, here's what a typical day with us looks like:

10am – 2pm

Welcome

We'll share some of the most exciting facts about Thames Water and explain what makes our most precious resource so special.

Make a splash in the classroom

Our exciting hands-on sessions include practical science experiments, such as our favourites 'Poo Power' and 'Sewage Soup'.

Get on your feet for the tour

Experience the sights, sounds and smells of a real sewage treatment works.

Take a well-earned lunch break

Please bring your own packed lunches – we can keep you refreshed with all the water you need, but we don't have any food or drink facilities on site.

Workshops to bring the world of water to life

We have a range of exciting workshop and experiment options. Please just let us know if there's something specific you're aiming to achieve from your visit.

If you'd like to bring a Key Stage 3 or 4 group, please contact us to discuss the workshop sessions. For these and any other queries or specific requirements, please [email us](#) and we'll be happy to help.

For a first-hand account of a day at a Thames Water sewage works, head over to the [Bitz and Bob CBeebies podcast](#)



2 What do I need to know?

Your group

We can welcome a **maximum of 32 children** per visit.

For safety, all children must be **aged seven or over (Year 3 and above)**.

You'll need to **bring at least one adult per eight children**. We may review this policy if your group has additional needs. For Year 11 and above a 1:15 ratio is acceptable.

Please ensure you **have a first-aider in your party**. We have a first-aid kit available should they need it.

The tour

All our tours are outdoors. Please make sure your students dress appropriately for the weather. Everyone should **wear comfortable close-toed shoes or boots** – no high heels or flip flops please.

While our classrooms are easy access, our industrial sites can be a bit tricky for visitors with mobility issues. **Most tours involve raised platforms and stairways**. If you're worried at all, please let us know in advance.

If you're no longer able to make your visit, please contact us as soon as possible.

In the rare event we have to cancel your visit (eg due to snow and ice on the ground or unforeseen operational reasons) we'll let you know ASAP, using the details provided in your booking form.

Food and drink

If you're spending the day with us, please bring packed lunches to eat in the classroom. If you're making a shorter visit, your group can bring any snacks or drinks you'd like. **Please note, we have no facilities for purchasing food or drink on site**. But fresh drinking water is, of course, provided!

Health and safety

We take every precaution to minimise risk on our sites. However, it's important to remember you're visiting a working site, and therefore hazards are present. Please work with us, and together we can make sure everyone stays safe and has a great day.

Your party leader will have overall responsibility for the conduct of all members of your group. Your safety is our priority – if the behaviour in your party is deemed inappropriate or dangerous in any way, your host has the right to end the tour immediately.

On the day of the visit, **please provide us with an up-to-date list of all adult and child visitors** so we can account for everyone in the event of an evacuation.

For more information on potential risks, the precautions we take and what you can do to help us minimise them, please see the health and safety risk sheet we sent with this guide.

If you'd like to arrange a preliminary visit to the site, please let us know.



3 How to find us?

Didcot Sewage Treatment Works
Basil Hill Road, Didcot
Oxfordshire OX11 7HJ

 [Open in Google Maps](#) >

Travelling by road

We offer on-site parking close to the education centre, which can accommodate a coach or minibuses. Please contact your Thames Water host as soon as you arrive for access to the site.

The sewage treatment works are located at the end of a small lane off Basil Hill Road. The turning is in between the entrance to Foxhall Manor Caravan Park and a small railway bridge. The works can only be accessed from the Basil Hill Road direction.

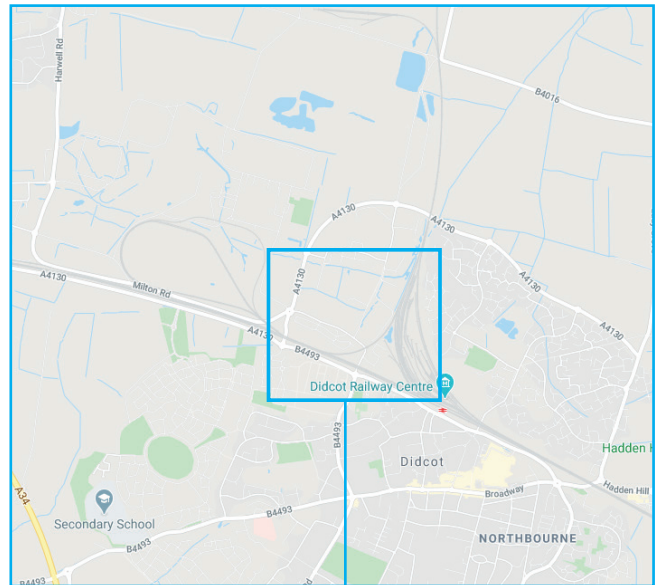
If you use a satnav, please be sure to check the destination, as we've found some can give misleading information when given this address.

Travelling by public transport

The sewage treatment works are well served by public transport.

Didcot Parkway Train station is around 15 mins walk away. Basil Hill Road also has a frequent bus service. Routes 94, 95, 97, X2, X32 X33, X36, 32, 36, 32B, 32C and M10 all pass nearby. The closest bus stop is Lyndene Road.

Please don't enter the site until you have made contact with your education coordinator.



Key



Site entrance



Education Centre



Car park

4 Where can I find more information or resources?

For more information about our work with schools, including visits to our centres, please see the [schools section](#) of our website.

You can find all sorts of useful educational resources, including videos, infographics and lesson plans, covering everything from water cycles and treatment processes to our pioneering work on the Thames Tideway Tunnel – just head to the [resources area](#).

We look forward to welcoming you. If you still have any questions, or there's anything else we can do for you, do get in touch.



schoolbookings@thameswater.co.uk



[corporate.thameswater.co.uk/
about-us/community/schools](https://corporate.thameswater.co.uk/about-us/community/schools)

Get ready to
dive into the
wonderful world
of water!

