

NOTE FOR TEACHERS

Rochester Cathedral is a living, working place of Christian worship. Please ensure that all pupils and helpers are aware that the cathedral is a quiet, reflective place. Schools are asked to show respect for the behaviour and traditions of worship of the Anglican community. Please provide suitable supervision and structured activities for all of your pupils during their time at the cathedral.

FOR SAFETY REASONS ALL
ACCOMPANYING ADULTS SHOULD WEAR VISIBLE
IDENTIFICATION BADGES WHICH SHOW THEIR SCHOOL.
THANK-YOU.

Please keep this sheet for reference purposes.

Useful Contact Details



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The Precinct
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ME1 1SX

Rochester Cathedral Education Centre
01634 810066

Rochester Cathedral FAX **01634 401410**

email **educationofficer@rochestercathedral.org**

Website **www.rochestercathedral.org**

Rochester Castle **01634 402276**

Guildhall Museum **01634 848717**

Rochester Tourist Information Centre **01634 843666**

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL



EDUCATION PROGRAMME FOR PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Dean and Chapter of Rochester Cathedral welcome school children of all ages to learn about this historic centre of Christian worship.

At Rochester Cathedral we aim to proclaim the word and work of God through:

- The past heritage and continuing life of the cathedral
- A high quality educational experience embracing the Christian ethos
- A ministry of welcome to all, offered by clergy, paid staff and volunteers drawn from the cathedral community and across the diocese
- Recognising the importance of each individual and their own personal beliefs, qualities and needs.

General Information

Charges—Entry into the cathedral is £1.40 per pupil off peak (September—February) and £1.90 during peak times (March—August). This charge includes one of our workbooks or trails of your choice if required and an allocated one hour time slot. There is a minimum charge equivalent to 15 pupils—Peak £28.50, off-peak £21.00 (with exceptions for SEN groups)
Charges for additional activities are noted over.

There is no charge for accompanying adults up to a sensible ratio. We reserve the right to charge adults above a reasonable ratio.



Maximum Numbers—In any given hour the cathedral can accommodate no more than 120 pupils. This means that unbooked groups or groups arriving at the wrong time may be turned away when the cathedral is busy.

Special Needs—We welcome groups with special learning or physical needs. Please let us know your requirements and we will do our best to help. Please note that our lunch room is situated on the first floor of a building with no lift or chair lift. The cathedral is fitted with a chair lift.

Lunch Rooms—The Cathedral has one room which can be booked for lunch. This room can accommodate a maximum of 30 students. The charge for booking the room is £12.50 per half-hour session. It is important that you adhere to your allocated slot in the lunchroom as it is in great demand.

If the lunch room is booked it must be paid for, even if it is not used. Please would groups leave the room in a clean, tidy state ready for the next group.

We regret that there is no disabled access to the lunch room.



Tailor made Visits

If you have a specific focus for your visit which is not met by one of our activities, trails or worksheets, please contact us to discuss the possibility of a tailor made visit to meet your specific needs.



Do-It-Yourself Visits

Some schools prefer to plan their own visit to the cathedral—however, it is still necessary to book and normal entry charges will apply. The Education team are happy to advise and help you with your DIY visit.

Workbooks and Trails

We are constantly reviewing / adding to our list of workbooks and trails. Below are listed the ones currently on offer. These trails and books are included in your entry fee and we strongly recommend that you use one to help your students to get the most out of their visit. Allow approx 45 mins / 1 hour. Workbooks and trails may be viewed /downloaded from our website www.rochester cathedral.org

Trails

Art, Science & Maths at Rochester Cathedral (KS1/2) - Guidance notes for teachers and accompanying adults.

Rochester Cathedral Explorer Trail (KS 1) - A short trail suitable for infants. Adult answer sheet also provided (this gives useful discussion and extension points).

Be a Cathedral Detective (KS2/3) - A short trail exploring the outside of the cathedral and its environs. Adult answer sheet also provided.

Be a Cathedral Investigator (KS2) - A short trail looking at special parts of the cathedral and gardens. Adult answer sheet also provided.

Workbooks

In Gods House * (Lower KS2) - A booklet trail visiting the cathedrals different 'rooms', looking at the furniture and discovering what it is used for.

Rochester Cathedral Trail * (Upper KS2) - A wide range of activities to help pupils explore the cathedral.

Signs & Symbols * (KS3) A reflective trail focussing on the religious symbolism and furnishings within the cathedral.

Art & Architecture * (KS3) - The cathedral speaks its story through a host of visual clues. Pupils are encouraged to explore and interpret these.

Time Travellers * (KS3) - The trail takes pupils on a journey through time which links both the history and spirituality of the cathedral.

** Teachers' notes available on our website www.rochester cathedral.org*

Special Activities

spiRE Day (KS1-2) 10.00—14.30 **Available November—February** - (*not Tues or Thurs*). An action packed day in the cathedral concluding with an act of worship (optional). The KS1 day includes a trail, role play christening and "Stories in Glass" (£3.45 per pupil).

The KS2 day includes the "Monastic Experience" or role play christening, "Stories in Glass" and a trail booklet (£3.45 per pupil).

The lunchroom may be booked free of charge for AspiRE days. Teachers' notes are available on our website www.rochester cathedral.org

Creation Disco Days (KS2) 09.50—14.30 Days of creativity and discovery in the cathedral. All days finish with a talk from a cathedral organist and an organ demonstration. (£3.95 per pupil). Details of forthcoming days will be publicised on the website.

Booking a Visit

An educational visit to Rochester Cathedral can provide opportunities for rich learning experiences. Please book well in advance—the cathedral gets very busy at certain times in the year.

How to book

- * Ring or email the Cathedral Education Centre to check availability of dates and activities. It is useful to have several dates in mind.
- * Once booking has been cleared through the cathedral diary we will send you a proposed itinerary. This process normally takes 7—10 days.
- * Check the itinerary and return one copy to the address over along with a signed copy of our Child protection / Health and Safety form. This will confirm your visit.
- * Two weeks before the visit please advise final numbers. An invoice will be sent at this time to be paid on day of visit please.
- * If you need to change any details of your visit please contact the Education Centre as soon as possible. Please note—if you arrive for sessions at times other than those booked we may not be able to accommodate you.



Preparing for Your Visit

- * You may view your chosen workbook or trail on our website www.rochester-cathedral.org. Teachers' notes for some of our workbooks, trails and workshops are also available on our website. Please download your chosen workbook / trail for you and your accompanying adults.
- * The most worthwhile visits are those where all accompanying adults are aware of the intended learning outcomes and how to best guide the students in their care towards these.
- * Students should bring their own pencils for use with workbooks.

During Your Visit

- * One of the Education team will normally welcome you to the cathedral.
- * The welfare and safety of pupils remains the sole responsibility of teachers and accompanying adults throughout your visit.
- * Invoices can be arranged or payment made on the day. Please make cheques payable to **The Dean and Chapter of Rochester**.

Cancellations—Receipt of your signed confirmation of itinerary constitutes a contract with Rochester Cathedral. In the event of cancellations close to the date of the visit the following charges will be levied:- less than two week's notice—25% of the cost of the visit; less than one week's notice—50%; less than 48 hours notice or non-appearance of group—100%



Important Notice from the Dean & Chapter

The Dean & Chapter have issued the following guidelines for visiting school parties in relation to welfare and safety. The guidelines are supplementary to each school's own Child Protection and Health and Safety procedures.



In the Cathedral

1. School staff / accompanying adults remain responsible for the welfare and behaviour of students throughout their visit to the cathedral and surrounding areas.
2. In order to be easily identified as part of a school group we ask all adults to wear some form of identification which clearly associates them with their school.
3. Please would staff remind students about appropriate behaviour, including turning off mobile phones, not eating and drinking and not dropping litter, prior to entering the cathedral.



In the Lunch Room

1. Please station an adult at the front and rear of your party as you enter the building.
2. Please ensure that only your group and no-one else enters the facility.
3. An adult should sign the group into and out of the centre, logging time of arrival / departure and the number in the party.
4. Information on emergency exit procedures is displayed in the lunch room. Please read this information.

In the event of any query on Child Protection or Health & Safety matters whilst in the cathedral environs please contact the Verger, the Education Officer, or the Cathedral Director of Operations.

Thank you for your assistance in ensuring a safe visit for all our school parties.

Although there is no obvious risk to visitors to the Cathedral the onus for assessment of risk is on the leaders of the visiting group. The Dean and Chapter can take no responsibility for personal possessions – please ask pupils and staff to keep all belongings with them at all times.

Supervised Activities

Mini-Tour KS1-3. A 30 minute guided tour of the cathedral. We can adapt the tour to meet your individual needs. (KS1 no additional charge. KS2-3 £1.20 per pupil)



Poor Man's Bible KS1-3 A guided trail exploring the messages in stained glass windows, carvings, tiles and the fresco followed by an opportunity to sketch (30mins tour, 30 mins sketching £1.20 per pupil).



Stories in Glass KS1-2 Decode the stories and messages in the spectacular Lady Chapel Windows. Explore the theme of Easter. Create your own stained glass window (1 hour, £1.20 per pupil).



Pilgrim Trail (KS2-3) Dress as a medieval pilgrim and journey around the cathedral unlocking the secrets of its history. Visit the Benedictine monastery, the west front, the pilgrim steps and finish by lighting a candle at the site of the shrine of William of Perth (45 mins, £1.20 per pupil).



Monastic Experience (Upper KS2-3) Become a novice monk and discover Rochester's Benedictine heritage. Monastic habits, a vow of silence and Gregorian chant combine to make a memorable experience (45 mins £1.20 per pupil).



1066-1500 (KS3) Suitable for a Medieval realms history based trip. Explore the growth and development of the cathedral from it's Saxon beginnings to the Reformation. Discover the massive impact of the Norman invasion upon Rochester. (45 mins, £1.20 per pupil).



Can buildings speak? (KS3) A guided tour of the cathedral explores the way in which the cathedral building illustrates and reinforces important Christian beliefs. (45 mins, £1.20 per pupil)



Travel and Tourism (KS4) A talk looking at the impact of tourism on the cathedral and the cathedral's place in the world of heritage visits.

Teachers' Notes Teachers' notes containing ideas for pre- and post-visit extension work as well as useful references, are available on our website.

Rochester Cathedral Activities and Workbooks— Curriculum Links

