School Visits

The Transport Museum, Wythall B47 6JA

Information for Teachers

- This Guide provides you with an overview of the Museum and how we will work with you to support your school visit.
- The information is current at October 2026, but please do check our website at http://wythall.org.uk/education for any updates.
- As we are run entirely by volunteers, our prices for a visit are kept low, although we do need to charge for the use of the associated miniature railway, if your visit includes this. Prices are regularly reviewed and are set out on the website.
- We want to work with you to plan your visit, fit it with your school curriculum / projects and ensure your pupils get the best learning and enjoyment on the day. For an initial discussion, please initially contact us by email at:- education@wythall.org.uk and we will get back to you.

An Introduction to The Transport Museum Wythall

Our Museum is based in a delightful rural setting on a former RAF site in Wythall, North Worcestershire. The site was acquired in 1978. We first opened our doors to visitors in 1980.

Over the years we have expanded substantially so that now our Museum features the following, all of which more than meet the various needs for school visits: -

- 3.5acre site.
- The Power Hall, a £1m facility opened in 2007 with Heritage Lottery Funding. This includes an outstanding historical collection of buses with interpretative displays, videos, artefacts and access for pupils to many of the vehicles.
- Two further display halls.
- Over 90 buses on site showing the history and progression of bus design, manufacture and operation in the Midlands from 1900 to the early 21st Century.

Transport Museum Wythall, a registered charity no 1167872

- An operational fleet of buses licensed to the highest standard and able to provide rides for your pupils, subject to driver availability.
- A nationally unique collection of Battery Electric Vehicles (you and I would call them Milk Floats and Bread Vans) which pupils always enjoy finding out about.
- The cafeteria where we base our school visits. Whilst the café will not be open for normal service, it is a good place for pupils to eat the packed lunches they have brought with them. (Toilets are situated next to the cafeteria).
- Picnic and rest areas – where pupils can take a break, play some games and let off steam (weather permitting).

In addition, our colleagues from the Elmdon Model Engineering Society can provide pupils with rides on the railway behind a steam locomotive – weather permitting. (This is a charged activity).

The Museum is overseen by a Charity Trust originally registered in 1978. We currently receive over 10,000 visitors per year. We open from April to the end of October at weekends and on Wednesdays during School Holidays. (Most school visits tend to fall in the April to July period, but we can cater for you in the early autumn, if you discuss your needs with us).

The Museum has held Accredited Museum status through the Arts Council since 2009. (This superseded the Full Status Registered Museum accreditation we achieved in June 2002). We are recognised regionally and nationally as a leading Museum for Public Transport. This is a major achievement considering we rely entirely on our Trustees and volunteers.

We have been running our education visits for over 10 years. Whilst we do not have the presence of a professional educationalist and specialist facilities, through our dedicated team of trained and experienced educational guides, we have developed tours, role plays and other activities (e.g. opportunities for you to take group photographs) which seem to meet exactly what teachers and pupils want – based on their positive feedback and thanks.

We can cater for visits of school groups ranging from 12 to 60 in number and can discuss with you before how we manage the sessions and what activities to include so that they fit with your learning needs and outcomes.

The Museum has a stringent Child Protection policy and key members of the guiding team have been through the appropriate Disclosure and Barring (DBS) checks.

Planning Your Visit

Meet the Team

Seb Amos (Trust Chairman) (sebastian.amos@wythall.org.uk).
Dave Goodman (Lead Guide / Co-ordinator) (dave.goodman@wythall.org.uk).
Guides: - Alan Shadforth, Kevin Harper, Dennis Shadforth, Ken Eliss, Alan Heywood, John Bowden, Claire Ball, John Haden, George Luke, Peter Baldwin, Stephanie Lennon
Other support: - Alan Wallhead.

We are able to cater for School Years 1 to 4 only, Key Stages 1 and 2 (ages 5 - 9) only, and that the material and primary sources of learning material we have, fit well with the following components of the curriculum: -

- History (explored through the historical development and types of public transport with themes of transport during wartime and "Going to the Seaside" always popular). Our 1935 Leyland Tigress Fire Engine is also always popular with the children.
- Design and Technology (by seeing and understanding how a bus works – and also comparing this with trams, trolleybuses – we have an example from Wolverhampton - and the Battery Electric Vehicles).#
- Workshop. Subject to available time, it may be possible to include a tour of the workshop however we recommend schools undertake a specific risk assessment ahead of this request due to the presence of normal heavy machinery and tools

In addition, as part of the planning we can discuss with you making links to other parts of the Curriculum including Science, Mathematics and Art and Design (e.g. using our poster collection or the branding / colour schemes used by different bus operators).

Whilst the main educational visits are for KS1 and KS2 pupils, we can work with you to accommodate the learning needs and outcomes for older age groups up to Year 6 (KS2) / 11 years of age - and with the right pre-planning beyond 11 years.

Our experience has been that a visit to the Museum can help teachers and pupils with their school / Curriculum projects by providing practical examples and hands – on opportunities.

Example Timetable for a Visit

Below is an example visit designed for 60 pupils, split into three groups each with their own allocated guide.

	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
10.00	Welcome Briefing		
10.15	Trip round Museum	Battery Operated Vehicles	Train ride
11.00	Train ride	Trip round Museum	Battery Operated Vehicles

11.45	Bus Ride		
12.30	Dinner		
1.00	Battery Operated Vehicles	Train ride	Trip round Museum
1.45 - 2.00	End of visit (including a quiz if time permits) and return to school		

Booking Procedure

Initial contact can be made to education@wythall.org.uk. Please let us know details of: -

- Your school.
- Age group.
- Size of group.
- Particular interests.
- Any special needs.
- Any dates (with options) you would prefer to visit.
- What you are looking for from the visit in terms of optional extras: - vintage bus ride as part of the visit; miniature railway ride.
- Your contact details.

When we receive this information, we will get back to you and our Lead Guide will then contact you to discuss the visit in detail and what we can do together to make it an enjoyable, worthwhile day for your pupils.

Prices

Please check our website for the latest prices and discuss them with our nominated contact dave.goodman@wythall.org.uk during the planning of the visit.

As at October 2026, prices are as follows (subject to the above): -

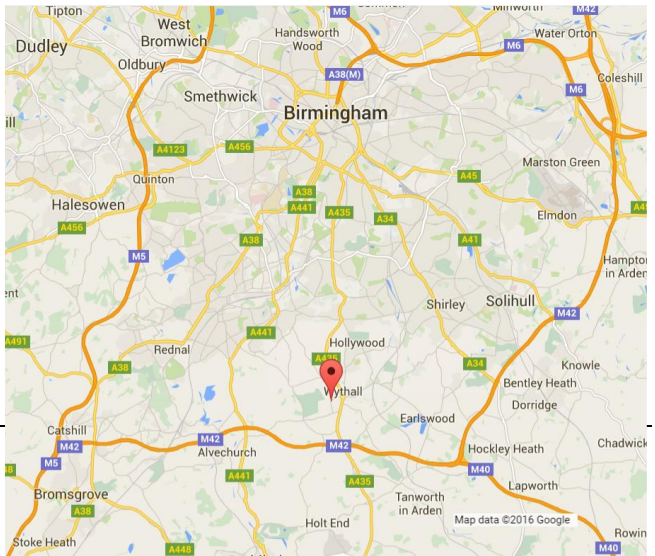
- Admission for children - Free
- Teachers and other adults looking after the children: 1 free per 5 children, otherwise £5 per adult.

Further optional services and costs are as follows: -

- Miniature train ride for pupils and their carers - £2 per pupil (minimum £100).
- A 20-minute bus ride as part of the visit - free

How to Find the Museum

Our address is: -
Chapel Lane



Wythall
Worcestershire B47 6JA
Telephone: - 01564 826471

Initial email contact for visits: -
education@wythall.org.uk

Directions by road: -

- Wythall is located on the A435 Birmingham to Evesham road, near to the junction with the M42.

- If approaching from the M42 (Junction 3) and Redditch / Evesham head towards Birmingham as far as the large island at Beckett's Farm. Turn left and follow the sign to the Museum.

- If approaching from Birmingham on the A435 you will need to turn right at the Beckett's Farm island and follow the signs. (If you get to the M42 Junction 3, you have gone too far).

Arrival

As part of the planning, we will arrange the meet and greet which may vary depending on whether the Museum is open to the public or not on the day of your visit.

If you are arriving by your own transport, we will ensure the access gate to the Museum is open and show you where to park and safely disembark your group.

At the start and before the visit gets underway, we will meet with your lead teacher and colleagues, introduce our guides and provide necessary briefings to you and the pupils (including site lay–out, timings and arrangements for the day, health and safety).

We find that there is a lot to fit in during your visit – and things can slip. So please, can you try to ensure that you arrive on time and work with our guides to make sure things go smoothly and keep to the timetable.

Safety Information

Please be aware of the following: -

- As part of your pre-planning, you will no doubt undertake your own risk assessment. To support this, we can provide you (on request) with the Museum's risk assessment for School Groups (October 2023 – reviewed every four years) and the actions we take to ensure everyone is as safe as possible).
- It will be the responsibility of the school to ensure that pupils are supervised at all times by a teacher and that there are appropriate ratios of teachers / carers to pupils for the size of groups being supervised. We suggest 1 teacher per 5 children. Our Guides, however, will adhere to the Museum's Safeguarding policy (copy available on request) at all times.
- **Our buses are not fitted with seatbelts**.
- The Museum site is also an operational area with restoration engineering taking place and buses being moved. Teachers, carers, parents and pupils should at all times adhere to any safety instructions given them and remain in groups allocated.
- At the commencement of the visit, the guides will give a safety briefing and point out any particular risks.
- Guides will indicate safe routes around the site.
- Please ask pupils to walk at all times – no running.
- As part of the planning, if there is a large attendance this will be broken down into smaller groups of no more than 20-25 pupils and a volunteer guide will be allocated to each group.
- Whilst we encourage hands – on activities, items in the Museum are precious and irreplaceable and we would expect that you and your pupils respect this.
- Some exhibits are not available for access because of potential dangers (as part of restoration) or value. Guides will instruct you on this.

Lunch Arrangements

Teachers, carers and pupils will need to provide their own lunches which can be eaten in the cafeteria. Whilst the cafeteria will not be open for business, we can provide a hot drink for teachers and carers.

Pupils / Staff with Special Needs

We have experience of working with children and young people with special learning needs and with disabilities. We are always willing to discuss this with you and would ask you to share any special needs with us in advance, so that we can plan and if necessary, adapt things to enable everyone to have an enjoyable experience on the day.