

Secondary and above

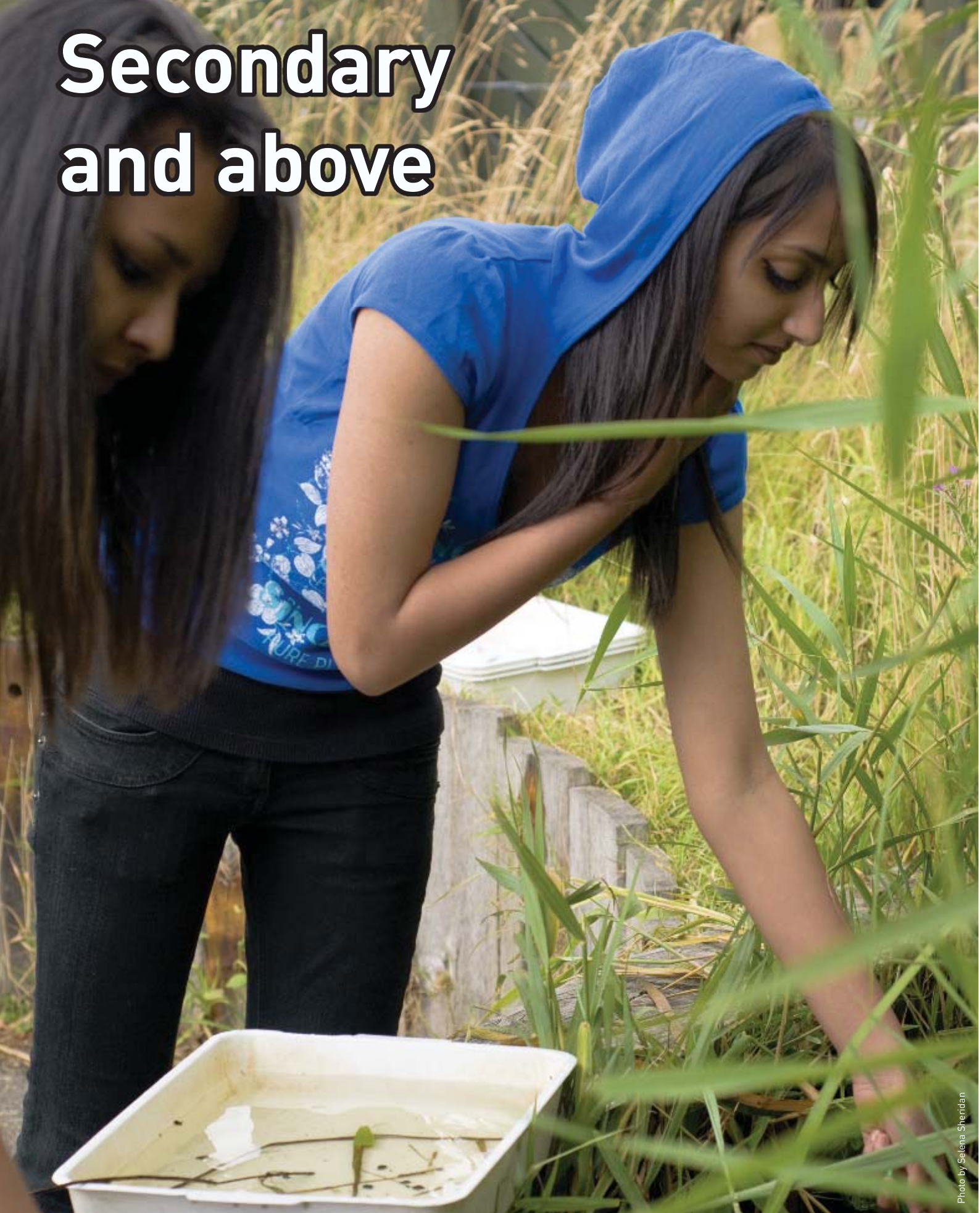


Photo by Selena Sheridan



LONDON
Wetland
CENTRE

MAYOR OF LONDON

Visiting WWT London Wetland Centre

WWT London is one of nine centres operated by the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT), the only UK charity dedicated solely to wetland conservation for wildlife and people.

At WWT London you will find:

- up-close experiences with wildlife and the natural environment
- over 100 acres of wild UK wetlands such as ponds and reedbeds
- over 180 species of bird as well as numerous species of plant, amphibian, reptile, dragonfly, mammal, butterfly and moth
- 14 'World Wetland' habitats with globally threatened wildfowl
- six wildlife hides and pond dipping areas
- a viewing observatory offering spectacular views of wild birds
- an indoor discovery centre with interactive interpretation and games
- an 80-seater theatre showing a 15 minute film 'Planet Water'

The wildlife on site is varied and plentiful all year and our hides and indoor interpretation offer shelter from the weather if necessary.

Free visits for state schools

Thanks to sponsorship by the Mayor of London, pupils visiting from Greater London state schools can explore the wealth of London's wildlife in safe, spectacular surroundings – **absolutely free**. The schools' programme is also generously supported by The Berkeley Group.

We also offer **reduced rates** for independent schools and other groups such as Scouts, Brownies or Sunday Schools booking an educational visit.

Booking your visit (new booking process for 2010)

Advance booking is essential for all groups.

Telephone **020 8409 4400** to make an initial enquiry and arrange your booking. The Education Department Office is staffed Monday to Friday.

Bookings open for the Autumn Term on 1 July, for the Spring Term on 1 September and for the Summer Term on 1 December.

The Booking Process

- Please consider suitable dates you would like to visit before you call
- Choose a Learning Session from those listed on page 3
- Please mention any specific learning requirements for your group
- Please give an indication of your arrival time

Extra things to consider for your booking

- pre-book free binocular hire (subject to availability).
- order copies of our free bird, plant or minibeast spotter sheets
- free teacher previews can be booked to help plan your visit

Once you have made a booking by phone it will be processed and a 'Booking Confirmation' email will be sent to you. The confirmation needs to be printed and brought with you on the day of your visit to assist your progress through our Admissions desk.

If any details of your booking change please advise us as soon as possible.

Free Teacher Preview Visits

We strongly recommend that teachers make a **free preliminary visit** to familiarise yourself with the layout of the site and facilities available. A well planned visit will help you get the most out of your day. The preview must be booked in advance by calling 020 8409 4400.

Download our risk assessment at wwt.org.uk/london/schools



Photo by Martin Senior



Photo by Selena Sheridan



Photo by David Foker

Choose a learning session

Key stage 3 (50 minute sessions)

Pond ecology

Catch and identify the creatures that live in ponds. (Pick one of the following options).

- ecological relationships
- feeding relationships
- variation and classification in wetland plants and animals
- sustainable wetlands using organisms as biological indicators and environmental remediators

Wetland heroes

Find out about the importance of wetlands and their conservation. Take on the role of a WWT scientist and use fieldwork techniques to save a species. Follow the migration of some of our geese. Observe and identify wild birds.

Invertebrate safari

A chance to get up-close and personal with a number of land and soil invertebrates. A scientific investigation into their ecological and feeding relationships. Discover their impact on the broader environment.

Key stage 4 (50 minute sessions)

Biodiversity

An introduction to biodiversity through field work, looking at species diversity and abundance; and influencing factors. This session will generate data that can be used for follow up work.

Leisure and tourism

Students will be asked to consider different visitor profiles and the specific needs of different visitors to WWT London.

Marketing

WWT London as a case study of marketing a wildlife-based visitor attraction. How does WWT convey conservation messages in a capital city?

Pond ecology

Using scientific methods to collect data on the quantity and abundance of plants and animals in the pond.

Sustainability

The importance of wetlands as a resource with specific practical examples of how we employ sustainable wetland management here at WWT London. With reference to the water cycle, climate change and local impacts.

Key stage 5+

Examining **WWT London as a case study** for one of the following topics:

- conservation: habitats and species
- management: wetland habitats and visitors
- tourism: a wildlife tourist attraction
- marketing: conservation charity
- ecology: wetland habitats

Build your own session (up to 50 minutes)

We can devise a special session to fit in with your area of study. Please call to discuss your requirements with one of our teachers. For SEN groups, please discuss your requirements when booking.



Photo by Heather Tait



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Photo by Peter Lapsley

On the day

Arrival at WWT London Wetland Centre

When possible, one of our volunteers will meet you on arrival, they will give a brief orientation to the centre and help with the following:

- check in at admissions and payment (when necessary)
- collection of any pre-ordered binoculars
- collection of any pre-ordered spotter sheets
- storage of bags and coats in storage bins (at own risk)
- allocation of covered lunch areas in the event of bad weather

Learning sessions

If you have booked a learning session:

- ensure you keep to your allocated time slots (see confirmation)
- meet our teachers in the courtyard approximately **five minutes** before your allocated learning session start time



Self-guided time

Before or after your learning session you can investigate the site on a self-guided basis. Feel free to produce your own worksheets or make use of our learning resources at wwt.org.uk/london/schools

Behaviour code

We will make every effort to make your visit enjoyable. You can help by making sure pupils are adequately supervised at all times. Behaviour and discipline of pupils on site is the responsibility of teachers and adult supervisors. Please ensure all adults understand the aims of the visit and their role in supervising and supporting pupils in the group. Please agree with pupils on the following code of behaviour during your visit:

- observe signage and stay on footpaths
- treat wildlife kindly
- do not feed birds as they are on highly specialised diets
- keep quiet when in hides
- walk, don't run
- respect other visitors enjoying their visit
- dispose of litter in the bins provided
- stay with your group at all times
- please remember to wash your hands before eating your lunch

We reserve the right to eject from the site any groups breaking this code.

Visiting our shop

Pupils may visit our shop to purchase souvenirs and study aids.

Please supervise your pupils whilst they are in the shop and limit their numbers to ten pupils at a time.



Useful information

Admission

Pupils visiting with state funded schools in Greater London visit free of charge.

For all other schools and education groups the admission charge is **£4.90** per pupil.

Students aged 16+ pay **£6.45** each.

Learning sessions are free to all pre-booked educational groups.

We require a **minimum group size of 15 pupils** to book a learning session with our staff. However, smaller groups of SEN pupils may book learning sessions (subject to availability).

Free adult : pupil ratio

1 : 5

Essential carers for children with special needs also visit free of charge.

Adults in excess of the above ratio pay the reduced educational visit rate of **£8.45** per adult.

Payment should be made on arrival by credit/ debit card, cash or cheque (made payable to WWT).

Please note we do not invoice.

Travelling to WWT London

Underground

Hammersmith tube station (Piccadilly, District, Circle and Hammersmith & City lines).

Buses

From Hammersmith take the 283 bus (stand K) which terminates at the Wetland Centre. Buses 33, 72 and 209 stop nearby (alight at Red Lion Pub).

From Barnes Station take bus 33 or 72.

From Barnes Bridge take bus 209.

Trains

From Waterloo, Clapham Junction or Richmond alight at Barnes Station. The centre is ten minutes walk from Barnes Station and buses are frequent (see above).

Free coach parking

Coach spaces are available but need to be reserved in advance.

Free disabled parking

There are ten spaces available for Blue Badge holders.

Free travel

Schools in Greater London can apply for free public transport for their visit. For information and to apply online visit;

www.tfl.gov.uk/schoolparty

Cancellations

We need at least two weeks notice if you wish to cancel or alter your booking. Please give as much advance warning as possible of any cancellations so we can offer your learning sessions to other schools on our waiting list.

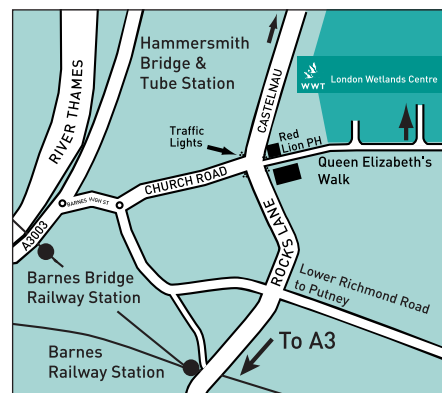


Photo by Martin Senior

WWT London Wetland Centre, Queen Elizabeth's Walk, London SW13 9WT

Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT) registered charity in England & Wales, no. 1030884 and Scotland, no. SC039410

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