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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 £2 per pupil / student . This charge is for an allocated one hour time slot during which you may wish to use one of our trails or workbooks or take part in a workshop. There is a minimum charge equivalent to 15 pupils—£30 (with exceptions for SEN groups). A non-refundable deposit will be required when bookings are confirmed. Charges for additional activities are noted over.

There is no charge for accompanying adults up to a sensible ratio (normally 1:10). 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 / 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 to the Quire but we regret that at present there is no disabled access to the crypt.

Lunch Rooms—The Cathedral has two rooms which can be booked for lunch. These rooms can accommodate a maximum of 30 students each. The charge for booking the room is £15 per half-hour session. It is important that you adhere to your allocated slot in the lunchrooms as they are in great demand.

Once a 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 workbooks, 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.

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 and choice of two workshops (choose from Role Play-Christening, Stories in Glass or Heraldry (£4.50 per pupil).

The KS2 day includes a workbook and choice of two workshops (choose from Monastic Experience, Stories in Glass, Poor Man's Bible or Pilgrimage Trail (£4.50 per pupil).

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

Creation Disco Days (KS2) 09.50—14.30 Days of *creativity and discovery* in the cathedral focusing on science and maths. The day is rounded off with a talk from a cathedral organist and an organ demonstration. (£4.50 per pupil). Details of forthcoming days will be publicised on the website.

Badge Days for uniformed groups (Beavers, Brownies etc) - We cover the requirements for Discovering Faith / My Faith badge during a Saturday morning at the cathedral. Leaders may wish to take their youngsters to visit Rochester Castle in the afternoon. See our website for forth-coming dates.

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 workbooks 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.rochestercathedral.org.

Trails

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

Be a Cathedral Explorer (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 workbook takes pupils on a journey through time which links both the history and spirituality of the cathedral.

* Teachers' notes available on our website www.rochestercathedral.org



We also have a selection of I-spy photo trails which you may wish to consider using.

Supervised Activities

Mini-Tour (KS1-3) A short guided tour of the cathedral. We can adapt the tour to meet your individual needs and curriculum focus. (30 mins)

Role-play Baptism (KS1) Explore the meaning of the baptism ceremony through role-play. (30 mins.)

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

Stories in Glass (KS1-2) Decode the stories and messages in our spectacular Lady Chapel Windows. Using popular stories (The Three Trees for KS1 and The Easter Angels for KS2) we continue to explore the themes in the windows. Create your own stained glass windows to take back to school. (1 hour)

Heraldry (KS2) The coats of arms of Rochester's bishops give us clues about their skills and personality. Explore the shields and create your own to take back to school. (45 mins)

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.)

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)

Reformation Trail (KS 1-3) Looking at a troubled time in England's history, we explore how Henry's new religion affected the life of the cathedral in Rochester. (30 mins)

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.)

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)

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. (30 mins talk, 30 mins to explore cathedral)

Charges Our "basic" charge of £2 per pupil / student reserves you :

- * an hour long slot in the cathedral to do one of our workbooks or trails of your choice (provided by us)
- * OR your own workbook for an hour
- * OR a booked slot to do a workshop.

Additional 45 minute slots are £1.40 per pupil (e.g. to do a workbook and a workshop).

Our lunch-rooms are available for groups of up to 30 pupils (30 minute slot) for £15.



Workshops

Title	Yr F / KS1	KS2	KS3	KS4	RE	History	Art / design	Citizen-ship
Mini-tour	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Stories in Glass (The 3 Trees)	✓				✓		✓	
Role Play Baptism	✓				✓			
Poor Man's Bible	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Stories in Glass (Easter Angels)		✓			✓		✓	
Monastic Experience		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
Pilgrimage Trail		✓	✓		✓	✓		
Reformation Trail	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Heraldry		✓				✓	✓	
Can Buildings Speak			✓		✓			
1066—1500 Medieval Realms			✓	✓		✓		
Travel and Tourism				✓				

Trails and workbooks

Short Trails	Yr F / KS1	KS2	KS3	Family	RE	History	Art / Design
Cathedral Explorer	✓			✓	✓		
Be a Cathedral Detective		✓		✓		✓	
Be a Cathedral Investigator		✓	✓	✓		✓	
I-spy Photo Trails							
Cathedral I-spy	✓			✓	✓		
Memorials and Monuments I-spy				✓	✓	✓	
Cathedral Beasts I-spy				✓			✓
Cathedral Patterns I-spy				✓			✓
Workbooks							
In God's House		✓			✓		
Rochester Cathedral Trail		✓				✓	
Art and Architecture			✓		✓	✓	✓
Signs and Symbols			✓		✓		
Time Travellers			✓			✓	

Booking a Visit

A visit to Rochester Cathedral can provide opportunities for rich learning experiences. Please book well in advance—we get 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 some alternative 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 let us know your final numbers.
- * 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.
- * Please be aware that occasionally (but rarely) a visit may have to be altered at short notice due to a funeral or unexpected national occasion (e.g. death of a member of the royal family).



Preparing for Your Visit

- * You may view your chosen workbook or trail on our website www.rochestercathedral.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 them.
- * 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.

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%.

POLITE REQUEST

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.

Useful Contact Details

Rochester Cathedral Education DEpartment	01634 810066
In case of delay / emergency (only on day of visit)	01634 811445
email	educationofficer@rochestercathedral.org
Website	www.rochestercathedral.org
Rochester Castle	01634 402276
Guildhall Museum	01634 848717
Rochester Tourist Information Centre	01634 843666

Please keep this sheet for reference purposes.