



# Teachers' Handbook 2011

Quality Badge awarded by



Buckinghamshire Railway Centre was founded in 1968 and in 2005 received full Registered Museum status. In 2009 it received the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge.

The Centre has 25 acres of land and has a spacious visitor centre, which was once the LNWR station in Oxford.

### **How to contact us:**

Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, Quainton Road Station, Quainton, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP22 4BY.

[education@bucksrailcentre.org](mailto:education@bucksrailcentre.org)

01296 655720

Education Officer    Bob Davies  
Office Manager      John Sampson

Visit us at [www.bucksrailcentre.org](http://www.bucksrailcentre.org)

### **Charges:**

The charges are £6.00 per child. For children 2 to 7 years old the ratio of free adults is 1 to 5. For children 8 and over the ratio is 1 to 10.

Special days, i.e. Victorian Days, Evacuees Day and Christmas Past (6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> December) the cost is £6.50

### **Safety Note to Party Leaders:**

The Buckinghamshire Railway Centre is a working Museum and every effort is made to ensure your party's safety.

However, please ensure that your children

- Are always supervised.
- Understand that they must stay with their groups.
- And understand that white lines must not be crossed unless an adult has given permission.
- A risk assessment is included with this Handbook.

### **Centre Attractions:**

Quinton Road Station – 1898

Rewley Road Station – 1851

Interactive Museum

Locomotives and rolling Stock

Education Coach – from March 2010

Restoration Shed

Travelling Post Office Coaches

Queen Victoria's Royal Diner

VIP coach used by Churchill and Eisenhower

There are four sets of Toilets on site and three have disabled access.

Lunches can be eaten inside, or outside on picnic tables.

The site is 95% accessible to children in wheelchairs. Children with walkers might find the distances challenging, but allowances can be made, e.g. short-cuts can be taken.

A train ride is available on certain Wednesdays and a miniature train ride can be organised similarly.

### **Educational Opportunities:**

For groups of fewer than 50 we can provide Guides to help with your investigations. For groups greater than 50 we provide helpers.

Possible areas of study are:

History      Transport and Life in Victorian Times  
George and Robert Stephenson  
Isambard Kingdom Brunel  
1930/40/50s  
Impact of Railways on the local area  
Travelling Post Office – send a postcard from the TPO

Geography    Influence of transport on the development of large towns/cities  
Use of plans

Art            Drawing from direct observation  
Photography

Science      Steam  
Levers

G & T        Brill Tramway – if you would like your G & T children to have a different experience.

**We hope that we can develop your visit with you during your pre - visit or on the telephone.**

## Time Line:

- 1712 First steam engine built by James Newcomen in Britain.
- 1769 Frenchman Nicolas Cugnot builds the first steam powered vehicle.
- 1804 Richard Trevithick, a Cornishman, built the first working steam locomotive designed to haul a train of waggons on rails for the Penydarran Ironworks in Wales.
- 1806 Birth of Isambard Kingdom Brunel ( - 1859)
- 1813 'Puffing Billy' designed by William Hedley, the first locomotive to have a smoke stack.
- 1825 Stockton and Darlington Railway opened as the first public railway to use steam.
- 1829 George and Robert Stephenson's 'Rocket' wins the Rainhill trial.
- 1830 'Rocket' built for the Liverpool and Manchester Railway and is the first passenger railway. William Huskinson, MP for Liverpool, was run over and killed on its inaugural run!
- 1833 George Stephenson devises the steam brake cylinder to operate brake blocks on the driving wheels of steam engines.
- 1845 8,592 miles of track authorised for construction in the UK (13747 km).
- 1863 The first underground railway in the world is opened in London, the Metropolitan Line.
- 1883 The first electric railway opened in Brighton.
- 1899 The Great Central Railway opened through Quainton. This was the last mainline railway to be constructed in the UK.
- 1923 Railway companies combine into 4 groups – LNER, LMS, SR and GWR.
- 1938 "Mallard" achieves 126 miles per hour – the fastest speed for a locomotive (202.7 km/hour).
- 1948 The nationalisation of the Railways.
- 1963 The "Beeching Plan" to close 5,000 miles of track announced.
- 1964 The first Bullet Train runs on the Tokaido Shinkansen between Tokyo and Osaka in Japan.
- 1980 The first MAGLEV (magnetic levitation) service opens in Birmingham airport, UK.
- 1981 The first TGV (Train a Grande Vitesse) runs between Paris and Lyon, France.
- 1994 Channel Tunnel opened.
- 1996 Rail privatisation.

## **Suggested pre-visit activities:**

Introduction to the history of steam and to railways and the impact on the social and industrial aspects of Victorian Britain.

George and Robert Stephenson, Isambard Kingdom Brunel and Thomas Telford.

Thomas the Tank stories

Write a postcard that can be posted in our Travelling Post office.

## **Some good websites:**

[www.bbc.co.uk/victorians](http://www.bbc.co.uk/victorians)

[www.bucksrailcentre.org](http://www.bucksrailcentre.org)

[www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com)

[www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

[www.victorians.org.uk](http://www.victorians.org.uk)

[www.heritagerailways.com.ukmap.html](http://www.heritagerailways.com.ukmap.html)

## **How to find us:**

From the East – along the A41 and follow the brown signs at Waddesdon.

From the South – along the M40 to Junction 9 (Bicester) and then follow the signs to Aylesbury, along the A41 pick up the brown signs after Westcott.

Or - through Aylesbury along the A41.

From the North – along the A413 from Buckingham and follow the brown signs in Whitchurch.

From the West – to Bicester and then follow the A41 to the brown signs just after Westcott.

## Buckinghamshire Railway Centre Risk Assessment

Risk	Persons	Likelihood of injury	Likelihood of serious injury	Likelihood of Death	Safety Measure	Overall Risk	In the event of injury
Arrival	All	1	3	3	Movement of children in an orderly manner	2	First Aid in Rewley Road Centre
Platforms	All	3	5	5	All told not to approach or cross the white lines at the edge of platforms without permission	3	3First Aid in Rewley Road Centre
Fire Evacuation	All	1	5	5	Fire Drill explained. Emergency exits clearly sign posted and lit.	2	If evacuation needed roll call carried out followed by check
Movement about site	All	1	2	2	Keep to concrete or tarmac paths.	2	First Aid in Rewley Road Centre
Where railway lines cross the footpaths	All	2	3	3	Warnings to take care.	2	First Aid in Rewley Road Centre
Crossing footbridges	All	2	3	3	Take care especially when wet. Warning given to take care.	2	First Aid in Rewley Road Centre
Museum	Children	1	2	2	Ensure that children do not climb on exhibits.	2	First Aid in Rewley Road Centre
Train Rides	All	1	2	2	Ensure that all are seated at all times and that children do not operate doors and windows.	2	Train Guard will ensure that all doors and windows are closed and will open doors at the end of the ride. First Aid in Rewley Road Centre
Miniature Train Rides (VAMES)	All	1	2	1	Ensure that children sit properly, keep their arms at their sides and their feet on the running boards. Ensure that children listen to and follow the instructions of the Guard.	2	Train Guards are responsible for the safety of all passengers. First Aid at the VAMES site.
Movement of heavy plant around the site	All	1	2	2	Audible sounds will be given and all visitors must move to a safe area.	1	Centre staff and volunteers ensure that this does not happen close to School parties, but this is sometimes unavoidable.

