



Wandle Industrial Museum

Supporting Schools

By providing resources, information and support in activities across the curriculum.

Who are we?

The Wandle Industrial Museum is an independent museum run by volunteers based in the London Borough of Merton . We were founded in 1983 by two former school teachers.

Our mission is to preserve, store, and interpret the heritage and history of the industries and people of the River Wandle. We do this through a series of talks, walks and workshops to individuals, groups and schools. In addition we make our archive available for research as well as responding to enquiries and requests for information on any aspect of the Wandle Valley. We also work closely with other organisations such as Merton Local Studies and Heritage Service and Merton Historical Society to source additional resources.

What Can We Offer?

Textile Workshop

Children are given the opportunity to learn about the technique of block printing introduced by the Huguenots in the 1700s. They will be told about the role of William Morris and the Liberty Print Works. Objects will be available for them to handle and they will each produce their own print based on a Morris pattern to take away.



Heritage Walks



A walk along the River Wandle covers many aspects. Learn about the changing course of the river, the use of mill ponds, visit remaining mill and work sites and learn about what they produced. There is also an opportunity to see the last working water-wheel on the river.

Historical Visits

A visit to the Chapter House of Merton Priory will enable children to learn about the rich history of this once mighty priory.

The richest priory in Surrey it was where Henry VI was crowned and where the first parliament in England took place.



Talks

Our range of talks covers a number of subjects from particular industries such as lavender and the calico industry to learning about the people of the Wandle Valley such as William Morris and the Watney Family.

Talks can be tailored to meet the needs of your studies e.g. Victorians.



Museum Displays

If possible we would recommend that your school visits the museum. Here you will be able to see a relief contour map of the Wandle Valley, models of the Morris Works and Merton Priory, and see artefacts from a number of the industries.

You can also learn about the first public railway - The Surrey Iron Railway.



Along with our archive and resources all of these activities are available to schools **FREE OF CHARGE**. For more information or to discuss your requirements please contact us by e-mail or telephone. Details on next page.

Online Resources

There are a number of resources available for teachers to download and use from our website (<http://www.wandle.org/visitingus/outreach.html>).

Currently we have available the following:

1. Natural Resources for Dyeing.
2. The River Wandle.
3. Water Wheels and Water Mills.
4. William Morris in Merton.
5. History of Textile Printing on the Wandle.
6. Textiles on the Wandle.

All are aimed at children at Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

We believe that what we offer covers many areas within the national curriculum including local history, geography and art.

Contact

The museum can be connected by e-mail to office@wandle.org or by telephone 020 8648 0127. Whilst museum is only open to the public on a Wednesday school visits can be arranged for any day of the week.

Remember all activities included in this booklet are available **free of charge**.

We are happy to arrange for you to visit the museum or for us to visit your school. All volunteers involved in our Outreach work are DBS checked.



The Wandle Industrial Museum, the Vestry Hall Annexe, London Road,
Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3UD. Tel: 020 8648 0127

Company No 01792482, Charity No 288655.