

RHS  
GARDEN

# Rosemoor



**Workshops  
for Primary and  
Secondary Schools**



# RHS Garden Rosemoor

RHS Garden Rosemoor is one of the finest gardens in the world. There are over 65 acres open to the public, comprising formal gardens, meadows and woodland. The garden hosts a stunning and varied plant collection that includes many species of fruit and vegetables, perennials, bulbs, herbaceous and woody specimens. There are formal and informal areas, deciduous and coniferous woodland, a young arboretum, lake and a stream garden. There are also two garden areas created especially for our younger visitors to play, The Brash and The Copse.

## The Peter Buckley Learning Centre and Teaching Garden

Our Learning Centre is named in memory of the late Peter Buckley, who made a huge contribution to the RHS during his time as President. It has two large classrooms, a covered outdoor space so we can work outside whatever the weather, toilets and cloakrooms. We also have a teaching garden and three dipping ponds. The surrounding area is open to visitors and includes a forest garden, allotment area, cob shelter and lawn where children can release some energy.



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# Discover an inspiring garden where the imagination grows

**The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) is the UK's leading gardening charity. The RHS is committed to engaging children with the natural world of the garden and encouraging them to grow their skills and confidence.**

Promoting physical and mental wellbeing, and inspiring young people to become advocates for the environment, we think learning how to sow seeds and care for plants will enthuse the next generation to get growing, and build a happier, healthier and greener future!

RHS Education and Learning offers a range of exciting workshops for school groups of all ages. Our workshops are run by enthusiastic, highly qualified teachers and are supported by experienced volunteers.

The RHS offers both guided visits that include a workshop with an Education Officer, and self-guided visits where school groups may visit the gardens independently. Often schools will do a combination of both guided and self-guided activities, with a half-day workshop and half-day self-guided. All educational visits are free but must be pre-booked. Our workshops are 1-2 hours in length and may be chosen from the selection in this brochure.



Workshop activities are adapted to suit the age and needs of the visiting group. We also offer activity ideas to complement self-guided visits.

Our school programmes are available to all. Please speak to the Education Officers about any special needs or access requirements that you may have. Our garden is accessible for wheelchair users.

RHS Garden Rosemoor has achieved the Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge







# Primary Workshops

The aim of our workshop programme is to stimulate and capture children's curiosity about nature and gardening through exciting hands-on experiences.

## RHS Garden Rosemoor

We offer eight core workshops, covering a range of different subject areas and with strong curriculum links. The RHS is keen to ensure that the workshops are relevant to your children's studies in school and take full advantage of the Garden and the resources that we can offer at RHS Rosemoor. Most importantly, we also want them to be engaging and fun for your young learners.

### How Plants Grow: Discovering Plants

#### EYFS / Key Stage 1

In this interactive journey through the garden we will begin to understand how plants grow and what they need to grow healthily. We will explore our unique collection of plants from the smallest shoots to the largest trees and identify the important parts that all plants share.



### How Plants Grow: Exploring Plants

#### Lower Key Stage 2

Get hands-on with plants to understand their lifecycle: from seed to shoot, to flower and fruit. We will investigate the fascinating ways that plants make and disperse seeds to reproduce. Explore the garden to discover plants in different stages of life and identify parts of flowering plants through nature's clues.

### How Plants Grow: Investigating Plants

#### Upper Key Stage 2

Think you know everything about plants? Think again! Students will explore the garden investigating unusual adaptations and group plants according to their characteristics. We will finish by getting hands-on exploring some of the mysterious ways plants can reproduce, including cloning!







## Fantastic Food

### Suitable for all ages

Edibles are incredible! Explore our kitchen garden to identify and discover edible plant parts and find out where your food comes from and how it is grown. Find out about how growing the food we eat can affect our planet.



## Who lives in our garden?

### Suitable for all ages

Plants need animals and animals need plants! Look high and low for the creatures in our garden and find out more about the important role they play for the plants and soil. Learn to encourage biodiversity through exploring different garden habitats.



## Gardens are good for you

### Suitable for all ages

Pupils will give their senses a workout with a variety of interactive activities supporting them to discover, describe and connect with the world around them and appreciate gardens as an inspiring space. This session will promote wellbeing by connecting with nature.



## Inspirational Nature

### Suitable for all ages

Find inspiration in our unique garden and allow your students to reflect and respond to the constantly changing shapes, colours and textures through the seasons. Discover and use natural materials with a range of hands-on activities to begin your next art project.





## Planting for the planet

### Upper Key Stage 2

Why is it great to be green? In this interactive session students will be encouraged to think about our impact on the environment and why plants are so important to the planet and their lives. Through hands-on activities and experiments, we'll find out about the important work RHS scientists are doing right now to protect our future.



## Other Workshop Opportunities

Occasionally we may offer seasonal workshops such as Christmas themed activities, or introduce new workshop titles or opportunities. Please get in touch if you have a specific request, or to find out about any other workshop titles that we may be offering.



### Continuing Professional Development

Continuing Professional Development courses are held for all adults teaching and inspiring children about plants and gardening. Details of venues and courses are available at

[www.rhs.org.uk/schoolgardening](http://www.rhs.org.uk/schoolgardening)



## Opportunities for Secondary Schools

The RHS is keen to increase engagement with Secondary Schools through workshops and self-guided visits.



We have worked with a number of secondary schools to provide lessons and activities to suit their needs, and are keen to start delivering a formal workshop programme. Please contact our education team to discuss what we might be able to offer you by emailing [schoolsrosemoor@rhs.org.uk](mailto:schoolsrosemoor@rhs.org.uk)

The titles available are:

### Soil Testing

- Carry out a series of tests on soil including pH.

### Classification

- Use Identification keys to identify plants in our meadows.
- Develop their own keys for a given selection of garden plants.

### Field Studies

- Use different techniques to compare ground flora in coniferous and deciduous woodland.
- Collect environmental data using a variety of equipment.

### Propagation Techniques

- Learn about the methods plants use to propagate themselves and how gardeners have taken advantage of this.
- Learn how to make new plants by, depending on the time of year, taking heel cuttings, root cuttings, hardwood cuttings, soft-tip cuttings as well as splitting and seed sowing.



### Self-Guided Visits

Schools are welcome to book a self-guided visit to the garden, however, booking is essential to take advantage of our free visits programme. All teachers organising a school visit must book a pre-visit so that you are familiar with the site, and in order to write your risk assessment.

If you are visiting Rosemoor and would like some ideas of activities you can do independently, we have a list of activity sheets you can download from our website:

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning/gardening-children-schools/school-visits/school-visits-rosemoor/self-guided-visits>

The titles available are:

#### Key Stage 1:

- Animal Hunt
- Colour Crazy
- Journey Stick
- Vegetable Hunt
- Scavenger Hunt

#### Key Stage 2:

- Comparing Animal Habitats
- Parts of a Flower Sketch
- Plant name Acrostics
- Viewpoints
- What's that Tree?

Self-guided visits are free but the RHS expects that students are supervised at all times by accompanying adults. Lunches can be eaten in one of our picnic areas.

# RHS Campaign for School Gardening



**The RHS Campaign for School Gardening inspires and supports schools to provide children with gardening opportunities to enhance their skills and boost their development.**

Benefits of gardening include:

- Improving physical and mental well-being and encouraging a healthier lifestyle
- Building life skills such as confidence, teamwork and communication
- Enriching the curriculum from science, maths and geography to art, design and languages
- Helping young people engage with their surroundings and develop a sense of responsibility

### Why register?

It is free and simple and all receive a starter pack containing seeds, plant labels, posters and more. Registered schools gain access to downloadable resources that help to make the most of any school garden, plus news, training courses and competitions.



### School Gardening Awards

Schools can also take part in our step-by-step reward scheme taking pupils through various aspects of gardening from planning and designing to taking cuttings and community gardening. Upon completion of each level, the school is awarded a certificate and prize.

### School Gardening Training Courses

Our extensive programme of training courses enthuse teachers and give them skills and confidence to create outdoor learning experiences that impact children's achievement, health and well-being, whilst supporting the National Curriculum.

Join the Campaign free and help young people develop growing skills for life at [rhs.org.uk/schoolgardening](https://rhs.org.uk/schoolgardening).

# How to book

Booking is essential for all educational groups. Workshop sessions last 1–2 hours long depending on the age of the children and may be booked for the morning (approx. 10am – 12 noon) or the afternoon (approx. 12.30pm – 2.30pm). You are welcome to use the other half day of your visit to explore the garden independently.

We recommend booking your visit well in advance to avoid disappointment, particularly for visits March to July, when we are very busy.

1. Choose a workshop from our workshop list.
2. Contact us via [schoolsrosemoor@rhs.org.uk](mailto:schoolsrosemoor@rhs.org.uk) to request a booking.
3. We will email you a booking form to complete and return, plus health and safety information and guidance for your visit.
4. Your booking will be confirmed by email when we receive your completed booking form.
5. Make a pre-visit to familiarise yourself with the garden.

## Admission

All educational visits and workshops are free but must be booked in advance. If you feel able to make a donation to the RHS to help support our educational work this would be much appreciated. We suggest a donation of £3 per child.

## Pre-visits

We request that teachers make a pre-visit to Rosemoor in order to familiarise yourself with the Garden and to inform your risk assessment. There is no charge for this visit. Please email [schoolsrosemoor@rhs.org.uk](mailto:schoolsrosemoor@rhs.org.uk) to arrange a pre-visit.

## Risk Assessments and Health and Safety

You are required to complete your own risk assessment for your visit. Supporting information to help you with this will sent with your booking form, as well as our 'Requirements for School Groups' leaflet with useful information for visit leaders.

## Allergies

Please inform Education Officers about any allergies (children and accompanying adults) before you visit the garden.

## Access

Please speak to the Education Officers about any special needs or access requirements that you may have. Our gardens and workshops are accessible for wheelchair users.



# Important Information

- Coaches and cars park in the main car park opposite the Welcome Building. Upon arrival please report to reception in the Welcome Building.
- Toilets are situated in the Peter Buckley Learning Centre.
- Depending on your group size and how busy we are, you may be able to eat your lunch in one of the classrooms or on the teaching terrace. Alternative picnic spots are in The Brash, The Copse, PBLC lawn or Cob Shelter.

## Adult supervision

These ratios may include volunteer helpers. Adults must accompany their groups at all times for health and safety reasons. Required adult to child ratios are:

Special Needs	1:1
Foundation Stage	1:4
Years 1-3	1:6
Years 4-6	1:8
All others	1:10

## Bags and Lunches

We normally have cloakrooms available to store coats, bags and packed lunches if you are having a guided visit with an Education Officer. However, at busy times this may not always be possible. You are welcome to bring packed lunches but we ask that you please take your rubbish back to school with you.



## Come rain or shine

All our programmes include outdoor experiences in the garden. Please ensure that your children are dressed sensibly for the weather, with suitable footwear and appropriate clothing regardless of the season!

## First Aid

There is First Aid cover in the Garden in case of an emergency. RHS staff will only carry out first aid under the authority of an accompanying school staff member.





## How to contact us:

### By post

Education and Learning  
RHS Garden Rosemoor  
Torrington  
Devon  
EX38 8PH

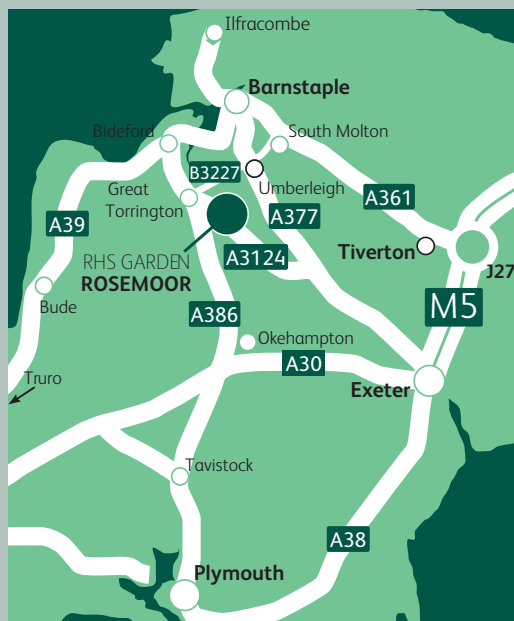
### By telephone

01805 626855

### By e-mail

[schoolsrosemoor@rhs.org.uk](mailto:schoolsrosemoor@rhs.org.uk)

## How to find us



The garden lies 1 mile south of Great Torrington on the A3124. It is approximately 1 hour from the M5 at Tiverton (junction 27) via the A361, 50 minutes from Exeter or 20 minutes from Barnstaple (these are times for cars, so please allow more time for coach travel).

Satnav users: **EX38 8PH**

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

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