

Margam Discovery Centre

FSC Margam Discovery Centre
Margam Park
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KS2 Programme Options



We offer a range of full and half day activities specifically tailored to the curriculum and skills framework so your students can get the most from their visit. Every day incorporates use of Thinking Skills, Numeracy, Literacy and ESDGC through a cross-curricula programme. The main curriculum and **skills framework** links have been highlighted below to help you select a programme that will best integrate with their work back at school.

The Neath Port Talbot subsidised programme covers the cost of a half day activity on arrival, three full days and a half day on departure. We also provide evening activities on two of the four nights. Please read through the options below and a tutor will be in contact in due course to discuss the programme with you.

Please note, visiting staff are responsible for organising activities for two evenings so it may be handy to bring some activities or resources with you. If you need some ideas or would like to use any of our equipment please talk to your tutor prior to your visit. If you require any further information please feel free to call or email. Full curriculum links and lesson plans are available on request.

John Muir Award

During their stay students can work towards their Discover John Muir Award. The John Muir Award is an environmental award that encourages people of all backgrounds to connect, enjoy and care for wild places through a structured yet adaptable scheme. <http://www.jmt.org>

To achieve the award you will need to choose 1 activity from each of the 3 categories along with 2 evening activities .

Discover	Explore	Conserve
History or Mapping	Margam Safari, River Environments or Environmental Art	Practical conservation

Half day options



Content	Curriculum & skills framework links
<p>Pulpit Walk or Capel Mair Walk A 2.8 mile walk to the top of one of Margam Parks spectacular view points. From the top children are able to see where they are staying and many of the places they will be visiting during their course. Throughout the journey pupils will record their reflections which will be collected and used in groups to produce a piece of creative writing. A nice introduction to the stay which also allows us to wear the children out before the first night!</p>	<p>Focus on: Literacy (Oracy, Writing) Developing Thinking (Plan, Reflect)</p> <p>Additional Links: Geography (Understanding Places, Environments and Processes) PE (Health Fitness and Wellbeing, Adventurous Activities) ESDGC (Natural Environment)</p>
<p>Team Building Pupils take part in a number of physical and mental team challenges. We use a range of reviewing strategies to help the children reflect on their teamwork and focus on key learning points. This can work well at the beginning or end of your stay.</p>	<p>Focus on: Literacy (Oracy) Developing Thinking (Review and evaluate) PSE (Active Citizenship & Health and Emotional Wellbeing)</p> <p>Additional Links: PE (Health, fitness and Wellbeing) Developing Thinking (Plan) ESDGC (Choices and Decisions, Natural Environment)</p>
<p>Sustainable Orienteering Children take part in a small orienteering course requiring them to use map skills to find ten different orienteering points. At each point they are asked questions on sustainability. This activity works well as a review activity at the end of your stay. If you choose to do the full day mapping option however this activity would not be appropriate.</p>	<p>Focus on: PE (Health, fitness and Wellbeing, Adventurous Activities) ESDGC (Choices and Decisions, Natural Environment)</p> <p>Additional Links: Geography (Locating Places, Environment and Patterns) Literacy (Oracy- Speaking, Listening, Collaboration and discussion, Reading- Comprehension & Response and analysis) Developing Thinking (Plan)</p>
<p>Pond Study A habitat study looking at how invertebrates are adapted to live in the pond. Pupils have the opportunity to develop identification skills by using keys. They will use this information to develop their understanding of the interdependence of organisms. Content in this day is included in the full day, Margam Safari.</p>	<p>Focus on: Science (Interdependence and adaptations), Developing Thinking (Planning, developing and reflecting)</p> <p>Additional Links: PE (Health, fitness and Wellbeing) Literacy (Oracy, Reading, Writing) Numeracy (Using data skills) ESDGC (Choices and Decisions, Natural Environment)</p>
<p>Environmental Art Pupils use the variety of habitats around the park as inspiration for their own art work using natural materials. They look at colours and textures in the natural environment. Activities vary depending on the season.</p>	<p>Focus on: Art (Understanding, Investigating, Making & Range) Literacy (Oracy), Developing Thinking (Develop, Reflect)</p> <p>Additional Links: Developing Thinking (Plan) ESDGC (Choices and Decisions, Natural Environment)</p>
<p>Practical Conservation The pupils learn the meaning of conservation, and take part in a practical activity, for example scrub clearance, bird box making or assisting with some of the biological monitoring surveys Margam staff carryout. This provides the opportunity for individuals to take responsibility for looking after their local park. Activities vary depending on the time of year and Centre needs.</p>	<p>Focus on: ESDGC (Natural Environment, Choices and Decisions)</p> <p>Additional Links: PE (Health Fitness and Wellbeing) Geography (Living in My World) Literacy (Oracy) Developing thinking (Plan, Develop, Reflect)</p>

Full day options



Content	Curriculum & skills framework links
<p>Science of survival</p> <p>During the morning session pupils consider what we require to survive. In groups, they will plan and carry out and evaluate a scientific experiment to investigate natural material as insulators. They may also explore cleaning water, making fire and properties of plants.</p> <p>During the afternoon their knowledge is put to the test as they design, build and insulate their own shelter.</p>	<p>Focus on: Science (Enquiry, Developing, the Sustainable Earth) Numeracy (Using number skills, Using data skills) Developing Thinking (Plan, Develop & Reflect) PSE (Working with Others)</p> <p>Additional Links: PE (Health, fitness and Wellbeing, Adventurous Activities) D&T (Designing, Making & Health and Safety) Literacy (Oracy) ESDGC (Choices and decisions, Health, Natural Environment)</p>
<p>Margam Safari</p> <p>During the day pupils will investigate and compare a number of contrasting habitats. In the morning they will focus on a woodland ecosystem, considering the plants and animals that live there and the physical conditions. This may include calculating tree height, hunting for invertebrates and measuring factors such as Light. In the afternoon the pupils will visit a freshwater habitat. They have the opportunity to develop identification skills. This information may also be used to explore concepts including adaptation and interdependence.</p>	<p>Focus on: Science (Interdependence and adaptations), Developing Thinking (Plan, developing and reflecting)</p> <p>Additional Links: PE (Health, fitness and Wellbeing) ESDGC (Choices and Decisions, Natural Environment), Literacy (Oracy) Numeracy (Using Data Skills)</p>
<p>River Environments</p> <p>This day is a full day out in the field, taking a packed lunch and returning to the centre around 4.00pm. Pupils investigate how a river changes as you move from the source to the mouth, identifying features such as tributaries and meanders. They will measure the width, depth and flow at three different sites along the Nant Philip within Margam Park. They may have the opportunity to use Digital Storytelling to describe how the river changes.</p> <p>Optional evening: Completion and presentation of Digital River stories.</p>	<p>Focus on: Geography (Understanding Places, Environments and Processes) Science (Enquiry, Developing and Reflecting) Numeracy (Using measuring Skills, Using Data Skills) Literacy (Oracy, Writing)</p> <p>Additional Links: PE (Health, fitness and Wellbeing, Adventurous Activities), Developing Thinking (Plan) ESDGC (Natural Environment)</p>
<p>Time travellers – Margam History Day</p> <p>This full day out gives pupils an opportunity to explore the rich history of Margam Park. We journey through time from the Celtic tribes and Roman invaders to Cistercian monks and the Mansel-Talbot family. This includes a visit to the Celtic Hill Fort, Margam Castle and a tour of Margam Abbey with the Verger.</p>	<p>Focus on: History (Chronological Awareness, Historical Knowledge and Understanding, Historical Enquiry) Art (Understanding) ESDGC (Identity and Culture)</p> <p>Additional Links: Literacy (Oracy, Reading, Writing) Developing Thinking (Plan)</p>
<p>Celts in Margam – Margam History Day</p> <p>Pupils experience life as a celt: During the day we will investigate different aspects of life in the Iron Age. Pupils will find out how the Celts made everyday objects, where they lived and how they fought in battle. The day includes a visit to the Iron Age hill fort.</p> <p>Optional evening: Creative writing</p>	<p>Focus on: PE (Health Fitness and Wellbeing, Adventurous activities) PSE (Working with Others)</p> <p>Additional Links: PE (Creative activities) Literacy (Oracy) ESDGC (Natural Environment)</p>
<p>Mapping</p> <p>During this day pupils have the opportunity to develop and use a variety of mapping skills. They create their own maps and develop the use of compasses and 6 figure grid references. During the afternoon session the students complete a large orienteering course drawing on all of the mapping skills they have learnt throughout the day.</p> <p>Optional evening: Margam tree challenge</p>	<p>Developing thinking- reflecting and evaluating own work.</p> <p>Geography (Location Places, Environments and Patterns)</p> <p>PE (Adventurous activities)</p>
<p>Adventurous Activities</p> <p>Taster sessions in Canoeing, Kayaking and Mountain biking provide students the opportunity to try something new and face personal challenges.</p> <p>These sessions are provided by NPT approved companies and qualified instructors. They do incur an additional charge due to the specialist equipment and extra instructors required.</p>	<p>PE (Health Fitness and Wellbeing, Adventurous Activities)</p> <p>PSE (Working with Others)</p>

Evening Options



Content	Main Content
<p>Campfire A great opportunity to make lasting childhood memories of sitting round a fire, sharing jokes, telling stories and singing songs. A wonderful opportunity for students to review the week and share their Margam memories.</p>	<p>Focus on: Music (Performing) Literacy (Oracy) Developing Thinking (Reflect)</p> <p>Additional Links: ESDGC (Natural Environment) PSE (Working with Others)</p>
<p>Eco-Duction An introduction to sustainability using the eco-friendly design features around the centre to demonstrate sustainable living. Students complete an orienteering quiz around the centre and discuss their impact on the world around us.</p>	<p>Focus on: Science (Sustainable Earth) Literacy (Reading) ESDGC (Natural Environment, Consumption and Waste)</p> <p>Additional Links: PE (Health, fitness and Wellbeing) Numeracy (Using number skills)</p>
<p>Nature Walk or Night Walk This is a very different experience depending on the season as we go out at approximately 6:00pm. If dark we can go star gazing, if dusk we can look for bats and other nocturnal inhabitants of Margam Park. In the summer months we can go deer spotting, play some games or explore the Abbey grounds. Students can use all their senses to explore the hidden parts of the park or run around and burn off some energy before bedtime.</p>	<p>Focus on: ESDGC (Natural Environment) PSE (Health and emotional Wellbeing, Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship)</p> <p>Additional Links: PE (Health, fitness and Wellbeing) Developing Thinking (Plan)</p>
<p>Mammal Trapping The most common mammals in the UK are the ones we never see. Mammal trapping gives students the opportunity for a close encounter with some of Margam's smaller residents. We try our luck setting humane traps in the evening then return first thing to see what we have caught. Students learn about what mice, voles and shrews eat and how they are adapted to their environment.</p>	<p>Focus on: Science (Interdependence of Organisms) ESDGC (Natural Environment)</p> <p>Additional Links: Literacy (Oracy)</p>
<p>Environmental Art Inspired by the natural world pupils explore colours and textures to create their own piece of artwork entirely from natural materials.</p>	<p>Focus on: Art (Understanding, Investigating, Making & Range) Literacy (Oracy), Developing Thinking (Develop, Reflect)</p> <p>Additional Links: Developing Thinking (Plan) ESDGC (Choices and Decisions, Natural Environment)</p>

What next?

- Your course tutor will contact you to discuss the programme options approximately 6 weeks before the course.
- If you have any students with physical disabilities or special needs please let us know so we can tailor the programme to include them as much as possible.
- If you have any queries please contact us by phone or email.

We look forward to your visit.



Please visit

<http://www.field-studies-council.org/margampark/>

for more information and 360° photographs of the Margam Discovery Centre

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