



Kench Hill Centre

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Hackney's own residential education centre, serving the borough's learning community

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2009

RESIDENTIAL TRIPS 2010-11

Contact us **NOW** to book for next year. We take bookings up to 18 months ahead. Check availability on our website or call us. Hurry – 1st Come, 1st served!

- Kench Hill is the only residential centre **exclusively** for Hackney schools and groups, tailor-made for your needs.
- We offer a **School Journey Grant** of up to £75 for eligible Hackney pupils. Discretionary grants also available.
- We can arrange planning meetings at your school to maximise benefits of a trip

We would like to remind Hackney schools that residential trips must be approved by TLT's Educational Visits Coordinator, Health & Safety Manager David Norwich (Tel 020 8820 7338)

AVAILABILITY 2009-10

There are still some weeks left for this year. We can also do part-weeks.

Week commencing:

30 November 2009*

7 December 2009*

Spring Term 2010

4 January *

11 January *

25 January *

22 February *

Summer Term

10 May (SATS week)

19 July

*Off-peak rates apply – small groups considered

NEW for 2009-10!

Adventurous Outdoor Activities

Archery, Climbing, High Wires etc – now available at nearby KCC-approved centre.



Inter-school sports

As part of your school trip, why not arrange budding sports stars to play against a local Kent school? We can arrange High 5's netball and football (mixed teams) for Key Stage 2, from beginners to champion level.

Free Farm trips

On a tight budget? Homewood School offer free tours of their farm and nature area.

Thematic weeks

We would like to offer topic-based theme weeks eg on Water, Interdependence etc. Please contact us to discuss particular themes you would like us to develop.

Go to work on an Egg

Our new flock of ex-battery hens are laying so well that we can now supply our kitchen's needs for free-range eggs.



NEWS UPDATE

Kench Hill Summer School

Co-ordinators from 4 clusters worked in partnership with Kench Hill staff to run our first summer schools. This was a fantastic success for 50 Hackney pupils selected on basis of special need from 20 schools. The project was aided by wonderful support staff, with a strong focus on behaviour management. The children had great fun, experienced activities and places for the first time and made many new friends. We even discovered some amazing talent! We will be seeking funding for future holiday programmes.



Let's Go Fishing

Many children really enjoyed fishing from our ponds this summer, some even got to taste the results!



Kevin Ward, Head of Holmleigh Primary, frying rudd!

Family Learning Weekends

2 schools organised family learning weekends around the theme of Healthy Lifestyles and Eating. A group of parents from Hackney Free completed a Food Hygiene qualification during their trip.

Kitchen Garden

We have conditional approval for a National Lottery Local Food grant, but wait for a formal offer before we develop our growing area and appoint a garden tutor. We will then incorporate gardening into every visit.

Refurbishment

Over the winter months we will be refurbishing the rear corridor, to improve ground floor toilet facilities and cloakroom area, and insulate the buildings. The kitchen is also getting a major overhaul.

Christmas and New Year

Bookings are now being taken for our popular Christmas meals. Combine a team event with a sumptuous festive menu using local and organic produce. December 1-20th.

The Centre can also be hired over Christmas and New Year for a self-catered break (12-40 persons).

Review of Business Plan 2005-10

What have we done?

- Set up The Kench Hill Charity
- Created provision for disabled access
- New minibus
- Acquired funding for new classroom and refurbishment programme
- Renovated bathrooms and most bedrooms
- Set up family learning programmes
- Piloted summer schools programme
- Developed a kitchen garden
- Developed new curriculum-linked activities

Where do we go from here?

If you would like to input into ideas for the next 5 years, please email or call us. We are still looking for new members to join the Board of Trustees.