



Newhailes

Teacher's information



Newhailes was acquired by The National Trust for Scotland in January 1997, and is an important example of a late 17th century house (with impressive 18th century additions) set within a designed landscape. The Trust has developed a conservation strategy suited to preserving the untouched interiors of the house. This means that the conservation work has been non-intrusive, changing the original materials and appearance of the house as little as possible. Newhailes has some of the finest rococo interiors in Scotland, an excellent collection of 18th century portraits and many beautifully preserved items of furniture and textiles.

The design of the estate remains much the same today as when it was first laid out, probably between 1721 and 1751. Newhailes was created in the fashionable style of the day: a pastoral scene interspersed with follies. Due to years of neglect, the follies fell into disrepair, but you can still see the remains of the shell grotto and other interesting landmarks in the landscape. Woodland and grassland habitats provide a wildlife haven in what is now a predominantly built-up area.

The school programme at Newhailes includes tours of the house, focusing on the Scottish Enlightenment and the lives of the family and the servants that lived there. In the stable block, the newly refurbished education room is used for school activities and educational events, including art and history workshops and exhibitions.

Environmental education sessions on the estate are organised by the Ranger Service, and cover a range of Sciences and Social Studies outcomes. Sessions can be tailored to your pupils' needs - please contact the Ranger. The Education Room can also be used as a base for Ranger-led activities.

Newhailes runs the very popular Green Scene for Schools event each year. This is a two day event for P2-P7 pupils, offering environmentally themed workshops devised by local Ranger Services and environmental organisations. All the workshops are curriculum-linked. Please contact the Lothian Area Ranger Service for more information.

The school programme offers many opportunities for cross-curricular work and engaging with the Curriculum for Excellence:

- A teaching pack is available for the house
- A teaching CD for the estate is also available. This contains activities about minibeasts plus a selection of other resources, including an Estate Trail and Tree Trail. The CD can be used for a teacher-led visit.
- Secondary schools are welcome, please contact Newhailes or the Lothian Area Ranger Service to discuss your requirements.
- Check out the NTS Learn website for more information for teachers: www.ntslearning.org.uk

Planning your class visit:

- To book: please phone Newhailes on 0844 493 2125 - or phone the Ranger on 0844 493 2124 to book a Ranger-led visit

For more information, visit www.ntslearning.org.uk

The National Trust for Scotland for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty is a charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SC 007410 and depends for its support on the subscriptions of its members, donations and legacies. Copyright © 2010 the National Trust for Scotland.



Newhailes

Teacher's information

Planning your class visit (continued):

- Book well in advance to avoid disappointment
- Teachers are welcome to lead their own visits round the estate – but please contact Newhailes in advance to book
- Stout footwear and warm, waterproof clothing is recommended for tours of the estate
- Maximum class size: 30 for a Ranger-led visit with a ratio of 1 teacher/adult to 10 pupils; 15 for a visit to the house with at least one accompanying teacher per group (larger groups can be split and tours spread throughout the day).
- The Ranger and Learning Officer can also split groups between them, offering classes the opportunity to experience both the house and the estate in the same visit.
- Access: Please contact the Learning Officer or Ranger to discuss your requirements so that we can plan a suitable session. You can also check the Newhailes web page, on the NTS website: www.nts.org.uk
- Toilets: Fully accessible toilets, for all pupils, are available in the stables courtyard.
- Refreshments: There is a café in the stable courtyard. In fine weather, pupils are welcome to eat snacks/packed lunches at our picnic area. In wet weather, the education room may be available – this must be confirmed when you book your visit.
- The site has been risk assessed. Risk assessments are available for ranger-led visits. Teachers are expected to prepare their own RA for the visit.

Charges:

- There is no charge for schools with NTS educational membership
- Non-members are welcome but there is a charge of £2 per pupil – accompanying adults are admitted free
- Membership: to apply for membership, go the NTS Learn website – or contact Newhailes
Class teachers are encouraged to make a free preparatory visit to the site

During your class visit:

- NTS staff will lead the school programme.
- Ranger-led visits can take place all year round. The length and times of a visit can vary depending on the topic. House visits usually take place from Easter to September - special arrangements can sometimes be made for out of season visits.
- For visits to the house, your class will be split into groups of no more than 15. Ranger service visits can take place as a whole group.
- Teachers are responsible for their pupils, and for their behaviour
- Pupils do not need to bring materials for the school programme
- Photography is not allowed in the house
- Pupils are welcome to visit the small shop if supervised by a teacher, in groups of no more than 5.
- Coats and bags can be left in the Education Room.
- On arrival: Please meet us in the courtyard of the Stable Block. If you are arriving by public bus from the North Gate let us know so we can meet you there.

Getting to Newhailes

- Newhailes is in Musselburgh, on the Newhailes Road (A6095) and can be visited by Lothian Buses 26, 44 or 30.
- There is parking for coaches at the site.



Newhailes

Teacher's information

Feedback from teachers/pupils:

"The children have learned an enormous amount about the natural world, animals minibeasts and birds. They loved visiting Newhailes and really enjoyed all the activities"

Teacher, Campie Nursery

"I just wanted to thank you for taking us round Newhailes. There are so many things you have taught us, we are almost experts!"

Pupil from Campie Primary on Ranger visit

"I thought the day was well organised, the leaders were very pleasant and very good with the children. It was definitely a very enjoyable day for all."

Teacher at Green Scene event, Royal High Primary

For more information and a booking form contact:

The Learning Officer on 0131 653 5591 for visits to the House

Or To book a Ranger-led visit, please call the Ranger on 0844 493 2124.

Newhailes, Newhailes Road, Musselburgh, East Lothian EH21 6RY