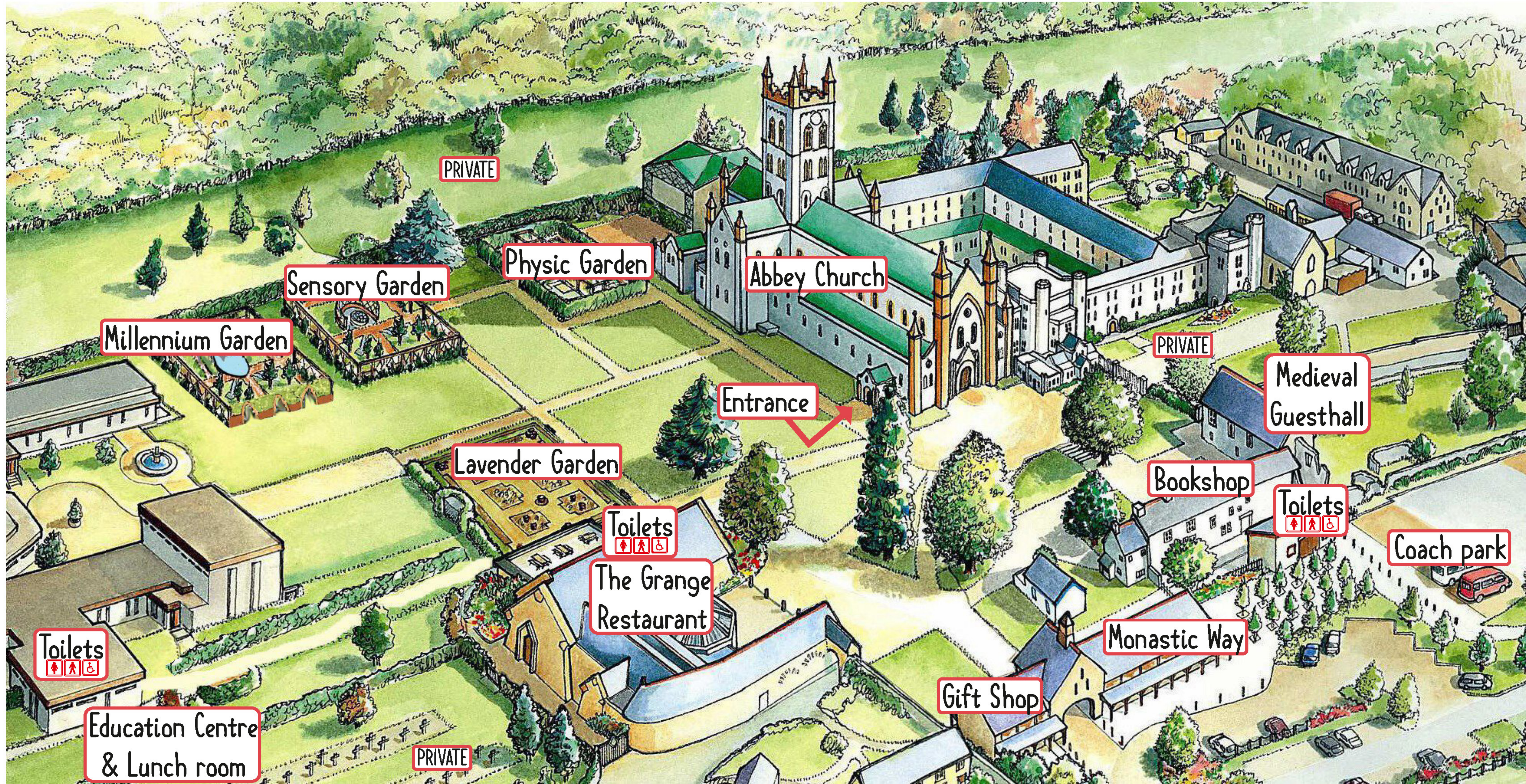


Buckfast Abbey

Information for Teachers



Information about your visit

Please read this before you come and have it with you for reference for your visit.

On arrival

Please park in the coach park, a member of Education staff will be there to meet you.

Trail booklets and sheets

If you order any of our printed resources, teachers' copies will be sent in advance; pupils' copies will be given to you on arrival. Please note that, while we are happy for you to photocopy items for use in school, we retain the copyright on any items used at the Abbey. We price our resources as low as we possibly can. In order that we can maintain this service to schools we especially ask that you do not photocopy trail booklets and sheets.

The Monastic Way

This is an interactive exhibition about Benedictine Monasticism. Please only go around in small groups and be aware of members of the public.

Interviews with monks

These take place in a room next to the Abbey Church, and usually last for half an hour. They take the form of a 5-10 minute talk by the monk followed by time for the pupils' questions.

Work on the site

We suggest that, to avoid congestion, any work you do on the site (either using our resources or your own worksheets), is done in small supervised groups (1:10). You may need to bring clipboards. Please do not let pupils lean on any of the Church furnishings.

Maps

We suggest you copy this sheet and the map overleaf to hand out to all your other staff and helpers.

Behaviour

The Buckfast monks welcome schools to their Abbey but ask that pupils are supervised at all times. We request that you establish with your group beforehand what is appropriate behaviour for a site such as this. Please make your pupils aware of the needs of other people who may be using the Church for private prayer. Please note that you are responsible for the safety and management of your pupils on the site.

Education Centre and Workshops

A member of Education staff will introduce and supervise the sessions, although you are requested to maintain an appropriate staffing level at all times. For workshops - your Confirmation Letter will detail where you will be met and any specific requirements.

Lunch

The grass area opposite the church can be used for picnics. The Schools' Lunch Room (same entrance as Education Centre) accommodates 50 and should be booked in advance.

Inside the Church

The monks' Midday Office at 1.00pm and the Office of None at 2.00pm are now said in Private Chapel. A parish Mass is said in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel (with the large stained glass window) at 12.05 each day which groups may attend. Could you please ensure that the Church is quiet at this time.

Special Services

The Abbey Church also acts as a Parish Church and will be occasionally needed for services such as funerals. We will let you know if this affects your visit as soon as we can and will try to rearrange your timetable to minimise disruption.

Toilets

There are toilets (including disabled) under the Grange Restaurant, beside the Coach Park and in the Education Centre.

First Aid

Professional First Aid cover is provided for visitors from 10.00am every day. The First Aid room is under the Grange Restaurant beside the toilets. Anyone with a phone will be able to call a qualified first-aider for you. First Aid kits are kept in the Gift Shop, the Grange Restaurant, the Monastic Produce Shop, the Bookshop, the Offices, the Church and the Education Centre.

Invoices

You will normally be invoiced on the day of your visit or on the last day if you are making more than one visit. You will be asked to confirm numbers on the day.

In the shops

Please ensure that pupils are adequately supervised in the Abbey shops and that they visit in small groups. It would be appreciated if large bags could be kept outside.

Safety on site

We require you to comply with our Children and Young Persons Safeguarding Policy (see separate sheet enclosed with your confirmation.) Please ensure that the leader of each separate group in your party has with them at all time a list of the pupils in their group. This will be needed in the event of a fire to check that all pupils have been accounted for.

We can provide you with information for Risk Assessment on request.

If your journey is delayed please call us on 01364 645517 and we will try to rearrange your times if possible.