

DISCOVERY ZONE



**SCHOOLS
ESSENTIAL
INFORMATION
BOOKLET 2026**

WELCOME

THERE'S SO MUCH TO SEE AND DO AT THIS YEAR'S ROYAL NORFOLK SHOW.

The Discovery Zone and STEMM Village return to the Royal Norfolk Show with an exciting, hands-on celebration of food, farming and the countryside.

In 2026, the Discovery Zone brings the Show's theme of **"Culture and Collaboration"** to life through **Mint and Mustard**, two crops at the heart of Norfolk's agricultural story. Grown by farmers working together in co-operative groups, they are a powerful example of collaboration in action.

Explore how mint and mustard are sown, grown and harvested, then follow their journey from field to food. Discover how these bold, flavour-filled crops have shaped Norfolk's cultural identity and how today's farmers continue to innovate, adapt and work together to meet modern challenges.

Alongside this, the STEMM Village uncovers **Hidden Worlds: From Microbes to Megawatts**. Dive into the invisible systems that shape our lives, from soil microbes and seed genetics to renewable energy and cutting-edge technology. Through interactive exhibits and inspiring demonstrations, see how STEMM connects food, farming, health, energy and innovation.

We look forward to welcoming you and hope you enjoy your visit.



SCHOOL TRAVEL GUIDE: ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

Please follow the specific instructions below based on the type of travel pass your school holds.

At the start of your journey to the Show, please ensure your coach driver has been handed a copy of the coach driver instructions and make sure your School's Transport Pass is on display in your vehicle. We would encourage all coaches to drop off and collect where possible, instead of parking for the day.

IMPORTANT TRAFFIC ADVISORY: PLAN EXTRA TRAVEL TIME

Please note that there are major highway upgrade works being undertaken by National Highways on the **A47 both East and West of the Norfolk Showground**, as well as at the **A47/A11 Thickthorn Interchange**.

We are working closely with all transport agencies involved to try and reduce the impact on show traffic. However, significant delays are expected during peak arrival and departure times. **Please allow extra travel time** for your journey to and from the show to ensure your school party arrives safely and on schedule.

OPTION 1: COACH & MINIBUS PARKING PASSES ONLY

Use these instructions if your vehicle is staying on site all day.

ARRIVAL

Location: Follow signs to the Park & Ride on Long Lane. All school parties disembark here.

Parking & Disembarking: Follow all instructions from the parking marshals, who will direct your vehicle to the appropriate location to park and disembark.

Vehicle ID: Every coach receives a tracking number and windscreen pass on arrival.

Info Slip: Staff will receive an information slip with your coach number and the coach park management phone number. Save this.

Pedestrian Route: Walk 540m from the Park & Ride, through the Green Car Park, to the Schools Gate. Marshals will assist you across all roads.



DEPARTURE

1. **Call Ahead:** Phone coach park management on the number provided upon arrival *before* leaving the Schools Gate so they can bring your coach to the stand. *Failing to call will cause delays.*
2. **Walk to Park & Ride:** Exit the Schools Gate and follow the 540m pedestrian path back to the Park & Ride. Marshals will assist you across Long Lane.
3. **Boarding:**
 - i) **Coach groups:** Wait at the main bus stand area until your vehicle arrives.
 - ii) **Minibus groups:** Follow the paths directly back to your parked vehicle.

OPTION 2: DROP OFF / COLLECTION PASSES ONLY

Use these instructions if your vehicle is leaving the site and returning later.

Important: Your drop-off point and collection point are in **two different locations**.

MORNING DROP-OFF

Location: Enter via Gate 1 (Main Entrance, opposite Premier Inn, next to Norfolk Food Hall).

Drop-Off Point: Turn right after the Food Hall and unload before the internal gate.

Pedestrian Route: Follow the roped pedestrian path into Green Car Park, then walk along the fence line to the Schools Gate.

Vehicle Exit: Your vehicle must exit immediately via Gate 42 onto Dereham Road.

Info Slip: Staff will receive the coach park management phone number upon arrival. Save this for home time.



AFTERNOON COLLECTIONS

VEHICLE LOCATION

Returning vehicles **must not** go to Gate 1.

Drivers must follow signs to the Park & Ride on Long Lane.

1. **Call Ahead:** School staff must phone coach park management before leaving the Schools Gate so vehicles can be moved to the collection stand.
2. **Walk:** Exit the Schools Gate and follow the 540m pedestrian path around Green Car Park to the Park & Ride. Marshals will assist you across Long Lane.
3. **Boarding:** Wait at the main bus stand area until your vehicle arrives.

GENERAL CAR PARKING INFORMATION

Free Parking: Public car parking at the show is entirely free of charge. No physical or digital car passes will be issued for cars.

Where to Park: All cars must park in the **Public Car Park**.

Restrictions: Cars are strictly prohibited from parking in the Park & Ride. The Park & Ride is reserved exclusively for vehicles holding a valid Coach & Minibus Parking Pass.



ON ARRIVAL

Please ensure that all members of your school party are wearing the appropriate wristbands before they disembark your school vehicle. It is important that students are supervised at all times. Where a school decides their students are mature enough for remote supervision, the responsibility remains with the schools. Wristbands will need to be shown at the entrance gate to gain entry. Additional wristbands will not be available on the gate. If you have booked a Coach Parking Pass, you will have received dark a blue School Bus Driver wristband to allow your Coach Driver to gain entry to the show. Please ensure they have this and are aware this must be worn for them to gain entry to the show. Please check-in your School's arrival at the School Entrance Gate, which is part of the Green Gate. Once you have passed through the School Entrance Gate, the Discovery Zone will be directly to your right. The closest toilets will be located immediately ahead of you to your left, on Fifth Drive. The STEMM Village is located immediately beside the Discovery Zone.

- INFORMATION POINT
- FOOD & REFRESHMENTS
- FIRST AID
- TOILETS
- ACCESSIBLE TOILET
- MOBILITY HIRE
- CHAPLAINCY
- SCHOOLS GATE
- PICK UP/DROP OFF POINT
- CRAFT ZONE
- ART MARQUEE
- NORFOLK CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE BUSINESS HUB
- SHOW OFFICE
- PRESIDENT'S PAVILION
- MEMBERS & VICE PRESIDENTS HOSPITALITY
- NORFOLK LOUNGE
- LONGACRE
- SPONSORS & CORPORATE HOSPITALITY
- ROYAL BOX
- ROYAL AVENUE
- INNOVATION HUB
- SCHOOLS STAGE
- CARNIVAL STAGE
- ACOUSTIC STAGE
- MEMBERS BANDSTAND
- NEW NOISE STAGE



- SPORTS ZONE
- DISCOVERY ZONE & STEMM VILLAGE
- AGRICULTURE/AG ALLIED
- MILITARY VILLAGE
- GARDEN VILLAGE
- RETAIL
- EQUINE VILLAGE
- LIVESTOCK
- HEALTH & WELLBEING
- EMERGENCY SERVICES
- MOTOR & MARINE

PLEASE REMEMBER TO WASH YOUR HANDS AFTER TOUCHING THE ANIMALS.
 THE ROYAL NORFOLK SHOW RAISES FUNDS FOR THE RNAA'S CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES TO SUPPORT FOOD, FARMING AND THE COUNTRYSIDE.



USEFUL INFORMATION

OPENING TIMES

The gates to the Royal Norfolk Show are open from 7:00am - 7:00pm Wednesday 24th June and 7:00am - 6:00pm Thursday 25th June.

FIRST AID

Location Medical Services have several first aid units across the showground - look for the red crosses on the map. In an emergency, you should always call 999.

SECURITY

An active security plan is in operation at the Show. If you see any suspicious activity, please report it to a steward or member of staff immediately.

ACCESSIBILITY

All toilet blocks on the showground have accessible toilets. A mobile toilet and changing area with a hoist is located at the Jack Read toilet block near the Grand Ring.

Electric scooters and wheelchairs can be hired from Advanced Mobility Solutions by the King George VI Gate, the Norwich Gate and the Dereham Gate.

Booking should be made in advance online at:
<https://royalnorfolkshow.co.uk/mobility/>
or via 01274 297777.

PICNIC AREAS

The School's Picnic area is opposite the Discovery Zone, on the corner of 18th Avenue and the Fifth Drive. Please ensure students do not eat anything until they have thoroughly washed their hands.

WATER

There are drinking water taps situated on the end of all of the brick toilet blocks for public use. All taps inside brick toilet blocks and outside brick toilet blocks contain potable drinking water. Please note that these may not be signposted.

STEWARDS

Show Stewards are easily identifiable as they will be wearing name badges and bowler hats. Stewards will man the Discovery Zone and will be happy to assist you with any questions.



SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding of students in school parties is the responsibility of teachers or accompanying adults. Where a school decides their students are mature enough for remote supervision, the responsibility remains with the school.

LOST CHILDREN

If the child has a 'Guardian Angels' wristband the number will be called. Lions Club International will have a 'Guardian Angels' station at each entrance. Alternatively, please write a contact mobile number for a responsible adult with your group onto student wristbands, to help assist lost students reunite with their school party.

If there is no wristband or mobile number, lost students will be taken to the RNAA Office. Please look out for our stewards with badges and bowler hats as you will be able to report a lost student to them, so they can report back to HQ.

TOILET AND HAND WASHING FACILITIES

Public toilet blocks are situated throughout the showground and are marked on the map. All toilet blocks include hand washing facilities; additional hand cleaning facilities can be found in all areas where livestock are present.

If students have been near animals, touching them or touching footwear, ensure they wash and dry their hands thoroughly. Students should be supervised during hand washing to make sure that each student washes and dries their hands thoroughly. Be aware animals at the Show are farm animals, they are not pets and may not take kindly to being stroked or touched.

YOUR EDUCATION SHOW PROGRAMME

To ensure you have the most accurate and up-to-date schedule, the official Education Show Programme is being finalised and will be sent separately.

This separate guide will include detailed maps of the educational zones, specific activity times, and guidance on what to see and do throughout the show. It will be emailed directly to your school's primary contact and made available online closer to the show date. Please ensure you print or download a copy for your staff leads before arriving on site.

LEARN

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS FOR SUPPORTING THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME AT THE ROYAL NORFOLK SHOW

Babraham Institute
Ben Burgess
Chadacre Agricultural Trust
City College Norwich, Easton College, Paston College
CL Hill & Lady Hind
Clan Trust
Condimentum
D C Moncrieff Charitable Trust
Dudgeon Community Fund
Ernest Doe
Felix Cobbold Trust
Gary Naylor Photography
Green Shoots Productions
Greenstalk
Harper and Debbage
J Bond and Son
John Innes Centre
John Jarrold Trust
King's Seeds
Melsop Farm Park
National Grid
Norfolk Gardens Trust
Norfolk Music Hub
Norwich School
Norwich University of the Arts
Ørsted
Ovamill
PlantGrow
Quadram Institute
REAGIT UK
Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons
RNA AgriBio Ltd
Saxon Air
Siemens Energy
Sizewell C
The Lugden Hill Trust
The Institute for Agriculture
and Horticulture
The Morley Agricultural Foundation
Thomas Franks Foundation
University of East Anglia

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO THE ROYAL NORFOLK SHOW 2026

Education is a key aim of the RNAA and we are working hard to make the Show as easy and enjoyable as possible for schools, but we know there's always more we can do! We would be grateful if you could take the time to complete an Evaluation Form, which will be emailed to you after the Show.



**FOOD & FARMING
DISCOVERY TRUST**

BOOKLET PRODUCED BY THE FOOD & FARMING DISCOVERY TRUST



WE WOULD LIKE TO ALSO THANK OUR FANTASTIC STEWARDS AND SHOW AMBASSADORS FOR ALL THEIR SUPPORT!

CHARITY #1176121

WWW.FFD.T.CO.UK

01603 731974

INFO@FFDT.CO.UK

FOOD & FARMING DISCOVERY TRUST, NORFOLK SHOWGROUND, DEREHAM ROAD, NORFOLK NR5 0TT