

FAQ's



What is The 2 Minute Beach School?

The 2 Minute Beach School is outdoor learning in the natural coastal environment (i.e. on the beach!). It's a place where people can learn, explore and investigate the coastline and its inhabitants and how to protect them. Our outside classroom is naturally inspiring, ignites imagination and confidence in everyone whilst developing a love of the ocean.

What sort of activities are involved?

The 2 Minute Beach School sessions are very much attendee led but each session is planned and prepared with links to the 2 Minute ethos, our environmental principles and values. Activities could include: beach cleaning, coastal crafting, rock pooling, beach safety, wildlife watching, treasure hunts and scientific investigations, surveys, independent in-depth studies..

Where are the 2 Minute Beach School Sessions held?

The 2 Minute Beach School is based in Bude, using primarily Crooklets, Maer and Northcott Beach just to the north of the town. There is a pay and display car park at Crooklets, and at Rosie's Kitchen.

All sessions start at the 2 Minute HQ on Summerleaze downs. Nearest parking is in the Crooklets Overflow carpark, from where you can walk through the gate and across the lawn..

What about the weather?

The 2 Minute Beach School will run whatever the weather, it's all part of the outdoor learning experience, unless our leaders assess it as being unsafe in which case the sessions will likely move inside and be held in 2 Minute HQ. This will only happen in periods of extremely high wind, or lightning storms.

Attendees must come prepared and dressed for the weather and do remember that the weather can change quite rapidly at the coast.

Arrival and collection

Please arrive promptly and sign the attendee in with The 2 Minute Beach School leaders when you arrive. As standard, we will wait for 10 minutes for all arrivals and after that we will head to whichever area of the beach we will be using. If you are running late for the start of the session, please call ahead so we know to wait for you!

At the end of the sessions, attendees can sign out if they are over the age of 14. Those under 14 will need to be collected by a designated parent/carer.

If an attendee is being collected by an adult other than their parent/carer, please make sure that we know the arrangements beforehand. Similarly, if the attendee needs to be collected for an appointment at an earlier time, please let us know arrangements in advance so that we can plan for this and make sure that they are safe. We won't allow young people to leave unless we have verbal confirmation from you, first.

What to bring

As inhabitants of the British Isles, we know how changeable the weather can be. As such, we ask all participants to come prepared for a variety of weathers on one day, regardless of forecast. Please bring at a minimum, a light raincoat, a hat and suncream. Flipflops and shorts feel great on a coastal day out, so certainly throw them in your backpack. We find however a pair of old trainers are better for keeping warm and are better for mixed terrain. We advise that you bring layers.

Attendees will find having a small rucksack to put in personal items and layers most helpful. This allows you to be hands-free for litter picking.

- A rucksack
- Old clothes that could get wet, sandy and muddy and preferably several thin layers
- A warm, waterproof coat
- Boots, wellingtons or sturdy shoes
- Waterproof trousers
- Hat
- Sun hat
- Sun cream
- Sunglasses
- Snacks
- Water bottle (we have access to fresh water source at the beach school)
- Mobiles phones are welcome, but should not be used during a session unless the teacher specifically allows it to enhance an activity.

What about risk assessment and safety?

There is an element of risk in all 2 Minute Beach School activity. However, we have an overall risk assessment and a daily risk assessment. Our Beach School staff hold the following qualifications between them:

- Outdoor First Aid
- Emergency First Aid
- Suicide First Aid
- Qualified Teacher Status
- Level 3 Beach School Qualification
- Enhanced Safeguarding
- Level 3 National Water Safety (Defra)
- Youth Mental Health First Aid
- Prevent

We can be contacted by mobile phone before or during the sessions on 07903 259355 but please be aware that phone signal can be sketchy on the beach! We also carry 2 waterproof walkie talkies that are manned by a team member 'on land' too in case of emergency.

Toileting

It is really helpful if attendees can use the public facilities before the sessions begin to reduce the need for disruption during sessions. However, should they need to go during a Beach School session, they will be accompanied to the toilet block by one of the teachers, who will wait outside while the children use the facilities. Young people aged 12+ may be accompanied by a peer instead of a teacher. Please be aware that these are public toilets, and during busy times there will often be other users. If you are not comfortable with this, please get in touch.

Terms and Conditions

Cancellation and rescheduling

All attendees must have a booked space ahead of arriving for their session. This is a secure place where we will capture important health and welfare information about the beach school participant.

Most of our sessions are fully booked, some with waiting lists. It is important that we are notified if you are unable to make it to a session as soon as possible so we can plan for any changes.

Regular 'no-shows' without notice may result in your future tickets being cancelled and given to other attendees.

Adaptions

You are responsible for letting us know of any adaptations we need to make to ensure everyone has an inclusive experience. We must be notified 7 days before the session to give us sufficient time to make the adjustment..

Where the attendee needs an individual to support them with an adaptation, the supporting adult will receive a space on the session.

Your responsibilities regarding attendees

You are responsible for making sure that all attendees come with suitable clothing and footwear. We reserve the right to ask an individual to leave if we deem that they do not have suitable clothing/footwear.

We will not lone work with individuals under 18 or adults who are vulnerable without sufficient care-givers in place. We reserve the right to cancel the session should we deem anyone to be put at risk.

All attendees must immediately and without question act upon any health and safety requests that the session leader may make. An attendee will be asked to leave if they fail to act accordingly. We expect all attendees to treat others with courtesy and respect. We reserve the right to ask an individual to leave if they are being disruptive. Where the attendee is under 18 and unaccompanied, their parent/carer will be required to collect them. The attendee will stay under supervision until collection.

We cannot guarantee that any snacks arranged as part of the activities will be allergy-free and cannot always make adaptations to make sure they are. It is the attendee's responsibility to make sure that they have suitable snacks/food/drinks available.