Kensington Palace Home Educators day: Friday 17 October

How do I book?

Use this link to book. Places must be pre-booked in advance.

What time can I arrive?

Our registration desk in **White Court (inside the palace)** will be open to admit visitors from 10:30am on Friday 17 October.

What is the latest I can arrive and join in the activities?

We advise arriving between 10:30am and 11:30am to ensure that you have time to explore the site and can join in planned activities. Last admission to the event is at 3.30pm, and the palace closes at 6.00pm.

Where do I arrive on the day?

Arrive at the **main palace entrance**. Please note your bags will be searched before entering the palace. Collect your wristbands (which will act as your tickets), printed maps and trails, and ask any questions at the registration desk in **White Court (inside the palace)**.

What will happen on the day?

Your ticket will give you access to Kensington Palace site on Friday 17 October 2025. To support your visit, we have developed a range of activities specifically for home educated children and young people and their parents/carers.

You will have the chance to meet two historic figures, who were influential in the design and presentation of the palace: Queen Anne and William Kent. Through Q&As you will discover how a former country house was remodelled into a grand Stuart royal residence, fit for a King and Queen and uncover the life and vision of William Kent, whose designs transformed the palace into a lavish Georgian party palace.

In addition, you will discover more about the Art and Architecture of the palace palace life through a self-led trail, an object handling and crafting activities and can learn more about the history of the palace in a lunchtime talk.

You are also welcome to explore the rest of the palace. There are three main exhibition routes: Queen's State Apartments, King's State Apartments and Victoria A Royal Childhood.

Our current temporary exhibition – <u>Dress Codes</u>- is in the Piggott Gallery and explores the codes and conventions of royal clothing

How can I prepare for this visit?

Read the <u>essential information pack</u> which contains more information about the programme for the day and what to expect.

Prior to your visit, you can explore our website to learn more about the history of Kensington Palace and the two historic figures we are focussing on for this event.

The story of Kensington Palace

Queen Anne's story

Willam Kent's story

Is Kensington Palace accessible?

Kensington Palace welcomes all visitors, and we endeavour to ensure visitors with disabilities enjoy the full experience. Our <u>accessibility guide</u> provides more detailed information.

In addition, there are sights and sounds around the palace which might trigger those in your group who have sensory issues. This includes:

- Audio and film projections
- Hard surfaces that can make the palace echoey
- Dramatic lighting changes
- Light open spaces and darker, enclosed rooms
- Content of some of the paintings on display might be triggering

We will have a space in the Clore Learning Centre, outside the palace, available for families to drop in throughout the day for a sensory break or to have lunch. However, please be aware that these rooms are available to all our home educated visitors. We regret that the nature of the site prevents us from being able to guarantee a quiet space.

Is the site buggy friendly?

Buggies can be taken into the palace; however, storage facilities are limited so you may have to keep your buggy with you.

The palace does not have any cloakroom or left luggage facilities.

Where can I breastfeed?

You are welcome to feed anywhere on site. However, if you prefer a more secluded location you may want to use the quiet space in the Clore Learning Centre.

Where are the accessible toilets?

There are toilets, all with disabled access and baby changing facilities:

- on the ground floor of the Palace, off the Stone Hall, and by the cafe
- inside the Clore Learning Centre (ambulant and changing places toilet)

Where are the baby change facilities?

There are baby changing facilities in the toilets at the palace. There are also facilities at the Clore Learning Centre.

Can we get an audio guide?

Our standard audio guides can be collected just off the main entrance. They are free to use and offer 8 different languages, including a BSL version. The guides have a neck strap making them easy to carry. Sound can be controlled, and they have an induction loop facility.

Where can we eat lunch?

There are picnic areas throughout the site, the largest being the East Lawn in front of the Palace. You are also able to picnic on the lawns next to the Clore Learning Centre and in the Centre's courtyard. We have a range of options if you wish to buy lunch on site including our palace café as well as the Orangery restaurant, situated alongside the Clore Learning Centre.

There is also a small lunchroom at the Clore Learning Centre.

When are you running days at the other palaces?

We will be hosting similar events next academic year at the Tower of London on Friday 24 April 2026 and Hampton Court Palace on Friday 17 July 2026. We are finalising details and will share on the Home Educators webpage and on social media in the autumn.