

 **first** Education & School Travel
working in partnership with



Low season
special offers for
visits taken
between
November 2026 &
March 2027

Whitby Discovery

All-inclusive residential packages for KS1 & KS2

Book Now

Call us on **0203 467 2002** or email
school.travel@firstbus.co.uk to discuss
your requirements.



Who are we?

First Education and School Travel are one of the UK's leading providers of school trip packages, working in partnership with over 100 venues and activity providers.

All-inclusive packages

These great value, all-inclusive curricular linked residential visits are delivered in partnership with YHA Whitby and are renowned for their high quality and value for money – we include all coach travel, accommodation, meals, plus your chosen activities.

Renowned school tour operator

We are a fully bonded school tour operator working to current UK Package Travel Regulations, meaning your payments are 100% safe with us.

We are members of the
Council for Learning Outside the Classroom



The Venue



YHA Whitby is situated in a spectacular location on the historic Headland, by the ruins of Whitby Abbey. The venue has 132 beds over 26 rooms, all but two are en suite. The hostel is the surviving part of Abbey House, the home of the Cholmley family since the 1500s.



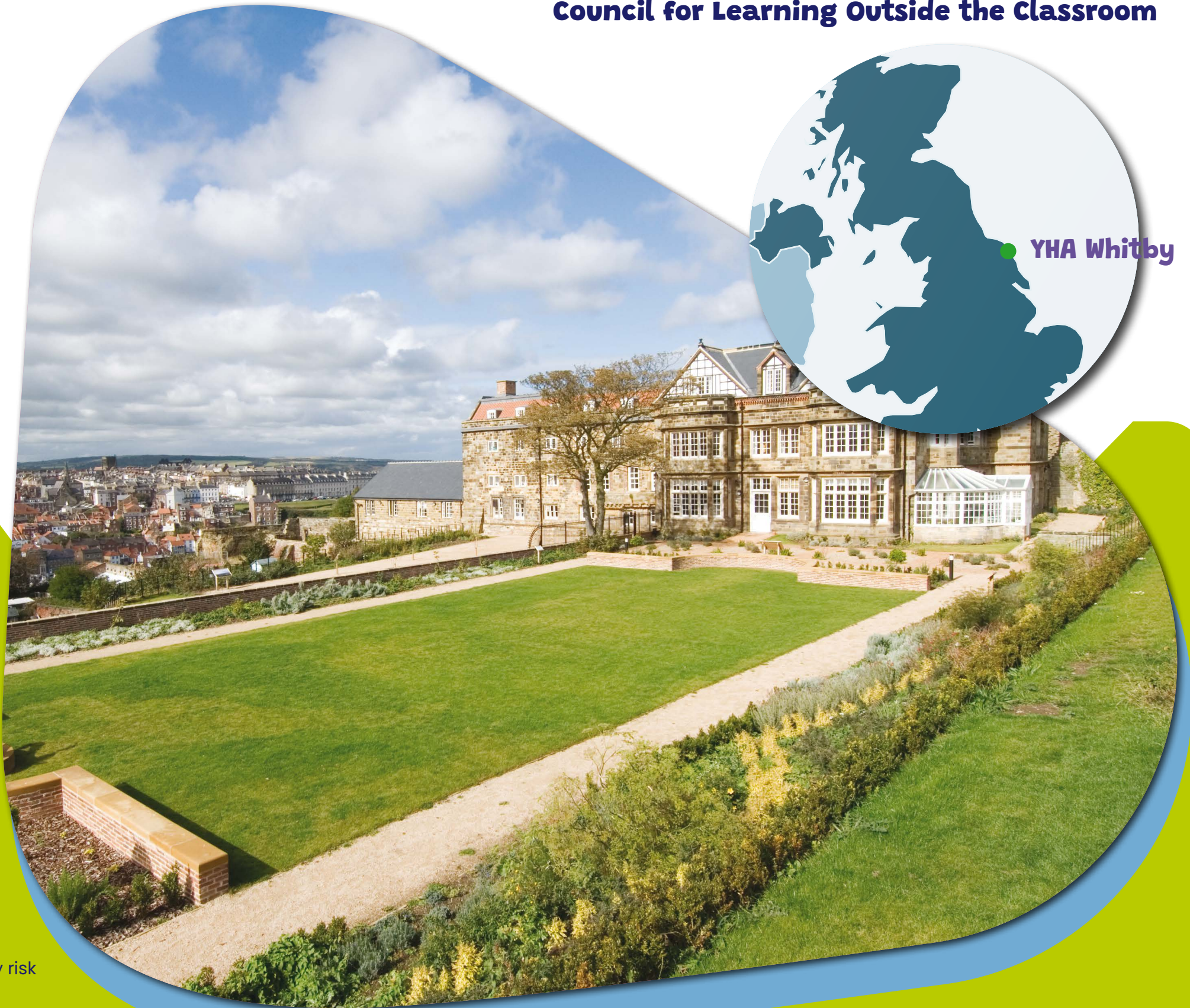
Staying at **YHA Whitby** offers a unique opportunity for your group to stay in a beautiful historic building, with one of the most recognisable ruins in England just over the garden wall. There is also a large garden to let off steam.

The Discovery Package

These LOTC accredited packages cover several KS2 areas and subjects within the curriculum. They are led by on-site staff, with activities and attractions booked, itineraries planned and all fully risk assessed, taking the pressure off trip organisers.

2 nights / 3 days – Arriving at lunchtime on Day 1 – departing at lunchtime on Day 3 – activities are delivered during the mornings, afternoons and evenings. Starting with the afternoon on Day 1.

We offer a range of activities for you to choose from in advance, these are delivered both within the hostel and its grounds and others which include trips down to the beach for a fossil hunt, a big yellow boat adventure, a lifeboat station visit and/or on through the streets of Whitby for a town trail or a visit to the Museum and Art Gallery.



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Daytime Activities



Town Trail: Duration 2-3 hours

A guided tour of Whitby discovering a wealth of history and fascinating stories. The tour takes in the famous 199 steps and the narrow, cobbled lanes of the old town. We then cross the river on the swing-bridge and down to the pier past the fish market. This is a good point to visit the beach in good weather. We then head up to the West Cliff to discover the sites of Whitby's literary past including Bram Stoker's Dracula, and where Lewis Carroll wrote of his plans to write Alice in Wonderland. The tour takes in Captain Cook's statue before a stroll through Dracula's tunnel and back to the hostel.



Coastal Walk: Whitby - Robin Hoods Bay

The coastline is full of wonder and adventure. It is part of the Yorkshire Jurassic Coast and has many hidden treasures to discover, from forgotten coves and beaches, to old lighthouses and a noisy kittiwake colony! The activity starts with an introduction about the route and a trip down to Saltwick Bay to include a Fossil Hunt (if the tide allows). Then we include activities on coastal formation and the tides, and create some big coastal Art Attacks. The spectacular coastal walk activity can either be a half day or full day. The coastal walk can be adapted for all ages and abilities and will be agreed in advance.



Fossil Hunt: Duration 2-3 hours (tide dependent)

The rocks that form the East cliffs around Whitby date from the early Jurassic Period (185 - 206 million years ago) and consist of alum shale, sandstone and clay, with the shale in particular being full of fossils waiting to be found by eager young hands. This great activity explains the rock cycle, types of fossils or interesting items to be found. These include ammonites, belemnites, fossilised bivalves, and possibly Devil's toenails. Maybe even an ichthyosaur bone.

Between the shale and sandstone can be found the layers of jet, the beautiful semi-precious stone for which Whitby is famous. Children will be taught how to identify jet from the more common sea coal and lignite and where the best places are to find it.



Whitby Lobster Hatchery & Marine Discovery Centre

This is Whitby's only aquarium. It provides an opportunity to dive into our native local marine world. The tanks showcase local marine biodiversity providing visitors with the opportunity to connect with and be inspired by our wonderful native species. Our visits also support the work of the newly-established lobster hatchery, a marine conservation charity aiming to provide protection and sustainability to the fascinating and incredibly important lobsters. Groups can get up close with the tiny juvenile lobsters as well as 30 to 40-year-old giants and they will come to understand the importance of conservation and the need to protect our marine environment.



Lifeboat Museum: Duration 1 - 1 ½ hours

This is a small museum, tracing the history of the RNLI in Whitby. Children will have chance to explore the exhibition of artefacts, models and dioramas, stories of past rescues and see one of the original Whitby lifeboats. One of the RNLI volunteers will then give a talk to the group, the volunteers are retired members of the RNLI and have hundreds of missions under their belts.



Lifeboat Station: Duration 1 - 1 ½ hours

The fabulous team at Whitby RNLI welcome the group to experience a tour of the current lifeboat station. The children will be shown a short presentation outlining the work that the RNLI do. The team will also impart clear messaging on how to keep safe around the coast, rivers and canals of the UK. The group will be shown the equipment used, and take a look at the large All Weather Lifeboat, before getting up close to the smaller inshore craft.



Big Yellow Boat: Duration - 45 minutes

A fabulous boat excursion with the Big Yellow Boat Company providing a short and safe boat trip for groups out of Whitby harbour and along the coast. Sightings of whales, dolphins and porpoises are possible. The trip itself usually lasts around 25 - 30 minutes, long enough to get the children interested in the surroundings but not so long there is any danger of sea-sickness. All children are provided with life jackets for the extra sense of safety.



Whitby Museum and Pannett Park: Duration 2 - 3 hours

The self-led Whitby Museum tour contains a huge array of displays and artefacts covering everything about Whitby, including the famous Hand of Glory!

YHA staff will be on hand to help supervise into smaller groups to make the best of the experience. Children explore the exhibitions which cover a range of topics, including geology, fossils, maritime heritage, Captain Cook, social history, archaeology and Whitby jet.

There is a playground next door perfect for children to let off steam, an ideal lunch location away from the busy harbour.



Captain Cook's Museum: Duration 1 ½ - 2 hours

Explore the life of one of Europe's greatest-ever explorers, Captain James Cook. Visit the 17th Century house that the young James Cook lodged in as an apprentice where he learned the skills that he would use so well in his three great voyages into the unknown.

The tour is led by the experienced education volunteers from the museum and includes a 30-minute introductory session, along with a tour of the house and an opportunity for handling artefacts.



Beach Art and Games: Duration 1 ½ - 3 hours

A trip to the seaside would not be complete without time spent on the beach and while the history, heritage and fossil hunting is amazing, you just can't beat digging with the good old bucket and spade.

YHA staff will organise the groups activities on the beach which could include building sandcastles, sand-sculpturing, beach art, team challenges and traditional beach games. It's amazing how much the children get out of spending time with their teachers and peers in this setting.



Viking Swords and Shields Training: Duration 1 ½ - 3 hours

Whitby means 'white settlement' in Old Norse and everyone in Viking society knew how to fight. Learn how to fight like a Viking with an actor trained in stage fighting skills.

We'll begin with team games, learn about the history of the Vikings and explore how to carry out stage fighting safely before acquiring some basic skills and manoeuvres to bring realism and excitement into battle scenes. The session will conclude with a final performance.

Evening Activities

Choose from some fantastic evening activities for your trip:

- **Lighthouse Team Challenge** - see which team can build the best lighthouse with limited resources.
- **Whitby Jet Polishing** - learn about the history of jet and have a go at turning a piece into a keepsake of your trip.
- **Whitby Storyteller** - be transported to the land of giants and witches to a time where the storyteller held the magic of the universe.
- **Night Walk** - suited to Autumn/Winter months, the walk takes you over the headland and to St Mary's church to take in the sparkling lights of Whitby and the Abbey at night.
- **Pirate Party** - become pirates for the evening with music, dancing, pirate jokes and pirate games with pirate loot for the winners and walking the plank for the losers!



Why choose Whitby?

Whitby is a place of many contrasts – an ancient fishing town where Captain Cook was apprenticed and where the ships took him around the world were built. A modern sea-side resort where with River Esk meets the North Sea. A place of legends and stories, dominated by the ruins of Whitby Abbey, which inspired Bram Stoker to write Dracula.

What can we eat?

The package includes a full board meals service for groups covering breakfast, packed lunch, and a two-course evening meal.

Breakfast is a buffet, served by members of the team, with guests choosing from a range of cooked food (**sausage, bacon, hash brown, tomato, beans, scrambled eggs and vegetarian sausage**), **continental pastries, cereal, yogurt, fruit juice, along with tea and coffee.**

Packed lunches consist of a pre-ordered sandwich, a piece of fruit, a biscuit bar and a bag of crisps. To reduce plastic waste, we recommend that all guests bring a multi-use water bottle to fill from the hostel water refilling station.

Evening meals vary on different days, and an example two-course menu would consist of the following options:

Red tractor pork sausage with gravy and mash with vegetables – 915 kcal

Vegetarian Cumberland sausage with gravy and mash with vegetables (v) – 787 kcal

Jacket potato with optional cheese and beans (v) – 657 kcal

Mini doughnuts with salted caramel sauce (v) – 285 kcal

Choc ice (v) – 171 kcal

Fresh fruit (v)

The team can cater for most allergies and other dietary requirements with advanced notice. Group leaders are sent meal choice forms ahead of the visit to allow participants to make their choices and return them along with details of any dietary requirements.



Find out more about us at
firsttravelsolutions.com/fest

Be more inclusive

As a long-standing school tour operator, we understand the current impact of cost of living increases on household budgets. We recognise how this will be affecting some pupils' opportunity to take part in a school visit. You can help parents to include their child by moving your visit to a low season month, thus reducing this cost burden significantly.

We all recognise the positive impact of outdoor experiences and moving to low season makes visits more affordable, enabling more children to take part. Encouraging opportunities for all.

We can beat the squeeze on budgets with our low season residential packages delivered between November and March when significant savings can be made.



These special prices are only available when booked directly with us as an all-inclusive package

Book Now – Call us on **0203 467 2002** or email school.travel@firstbus.co.uk



Protecting the environment - making a clean getaway

We are committed to caring for the environment and finding the most sustainable methods of moving passengers are the UK in the most eco-efficient ways possible. We continue to work with our partners in recruiting and providing the greenest of vehicles with the cleanest and most fuel-efficient engines for all school travel journeys.

Wherever possible, we ensure vehicles are powered by Euro 6 diesel engines, these are the cleanest engines currently on the road in the UK and fully compliant with the Green Air Act.

We recognise our responsibility in doing our utmost to provide the cleanest methods of travel.

How to book

Simply let us have some details of your proposed group and your requested dates and we will provide an all-inclusive quotation.

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