



Beth Daniels, Account Manager at Virgin Atlantic, Paul Webb, Senior Account Manager at Delta Air Lines and Bernadette Fernandes, Manager Group Sales, explain why Virgin Atlantic and Delta Air Lines make the perfect partnership when it comes to school group travel.



• Beth Daniels.



• Paul Webb.



• Bernadette Fernandes.

Can teachers or group leaders earn rewards when booking school trips?

Absolutely. Teachers and group leaders can make the most of our Flying Club and Delta SkyMiles® loyalty programmes, earning miles every time you book. Miles can be redeemed for flights, upgrades, or even unforgettable experiences - adding extra value to future school trips.

In what ways does Virgin Atlantic and Delta accommodate passengers with dietary needs or requiring special assistance?

Every passenger deserves to feel comfortable and cared for. We're committed to meeting individual needs with thought, flexibility, and attention to detail. From mobility support to medical requirements, our teams provide tailored help such as wheelchair services and priority boarding to make the journey smoother from start to finish.

At Delta, accessibility is a core value. The Advisory Board on Disability is made up entirely of frequent flyers with a range of disabilities - who work closely with Delta to promote accessibility and enhance every aspect of the travel experience, from customer service to training and policies. To learn more, visit delta.com/accessible-travel-services/advisory-board-on-disabilities

Why choose Virgin Atlantic & Delta as your airline of choice for your School Trip?

Together, we offer a wide range of school group-friendly benefits, all designed to take the stress out of planning and travelling with a large group.

From dedicated group check-in areas (available at London Heathrow only) that make the airport experience seamless, to free seat assignments that ensure everyone is sat together, we've thought of the details that matter most.

What can students and teachers expect when flying Virgin Atlantic and Delta?

Our school groups can look forward to hot meals, snacks and drinks which are all included with options to suit a range of dietary needs. Our in-flight entertainment is available for all ages - from the latest films to classic favourites, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Plus, with fast, free Delta Sync Wi-Fi* on Delta flights and inflight connectivity on Virgin Atlantic, you can stream, scroll and stay in touch - all from your seat.

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Virgin Atlantic has also introduced additional support for customers who use British Sign Language (BSL). In partnership with Remark!, a UK-based, deaf-owned organisation, selected cabin crew have received bespoke aviation-themed BSL training to enhance communication onboard. Customers can request a BSL-trained crew member ahead of their flight. We're also enhancing accessibility across the journey - increasing subtitled options on inflight entertainment, improving accessibility information in My Booking, and introducing SignLive, an on-demand BSL interpreter service for customer support teams.

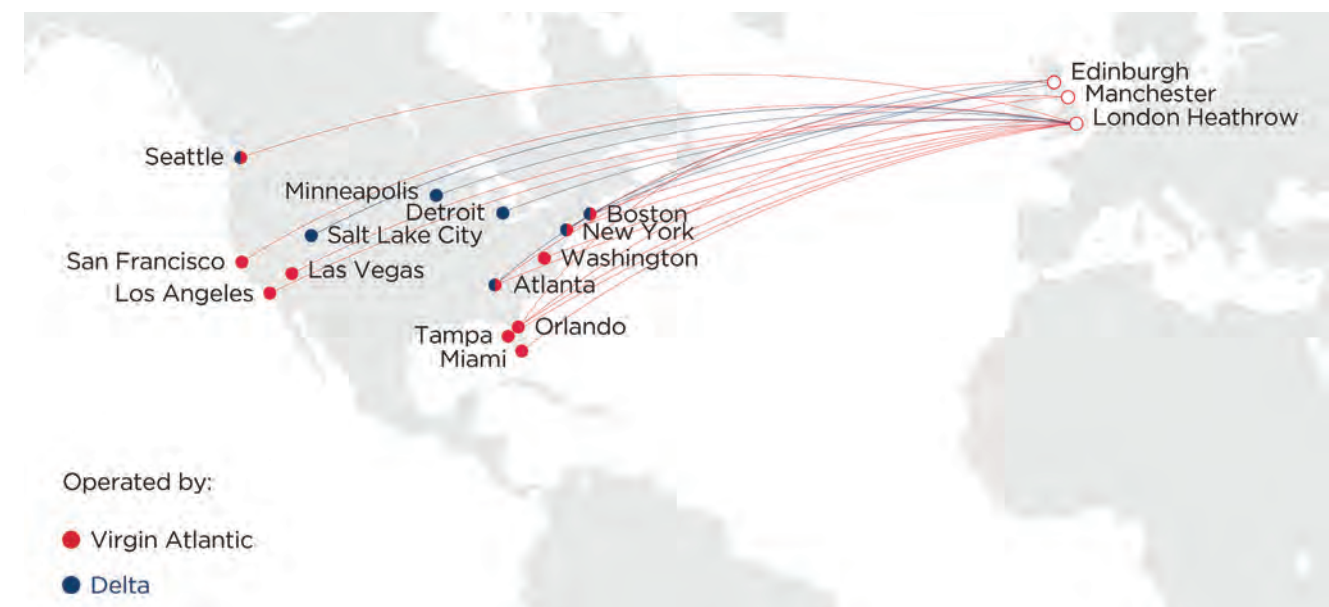
How is Virgin Atlantic and Delta working towards more sustainable group travel?

We know how important it is to protect the world for future generations. That's why we're taking steps to make travel more sustainable, with a focus on reducing our impact wherever possible.

Virgin Atlantic recently operated a pioneering flight using 100% Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF). We're focusing on making our fleet and operations more efficient. Onboard we're reducing waste, you'll see thoughtful touches like recycled or plant-based materials and efforts to reduce single-use plastics.

Where do Virgin Atlantic and Delta Air Lines fly to?

Together, Virgin Atlantic and Delta connect the UK and the US with an extensive network of routes - not just from London Heathrow, but also from Manchester and Edinburgh. Between us, we offer smooth connections through key US gateways to over 220 destinations across North America and beyond. Our partnership makes it easy to reach the destinations that bring your classroom learning to life.



*WiFi from £2.99 on Virgin Atlantic and free Delta Sync WiFi available on most Delta Air Lines domestic and select international flights. WiFi terms of use apply.

Virgin Atlantic



Here to support you

- Negotiated fares across our network, helping budgets go further.
- Dedicated group bag drop (available at London Heathrow upon request).
- Experienced team who know the ins and outs of group travel.

How are Virgin Atlantic and Delta inspiring young people and giving back to communities?

We're passionate about opening the world and inspiring the next generation while we do it.

Passport to Change - Virgin Atlantic's flagship schools programme is growing, giving students the chance to take part in hands-on STEM workshops, go behind the scenes with pilots and engineers, and picture themselves in future aviation or technology careers.

Delta has long supported Great Ormond Street Hospital, we have a number of volunteering and Sponsorship events with the hospital as part of our wider commitment to the Charitable communities that we serve: In 2023, Delta and The Delta Air Lines Foundation contributed \$2.68 million to children's hospitals globally, including Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (to support Hughes Spalding Hospital), Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Great Ormond Street Hospital in London and Emma Children's Hospital in Amsterdam. ●

For more information and to book, please contact your preferred School Tour Operator.



Winners of the Best Residential Experience at the School Travel Awards, Conway Centres has four centres located across Cheshire and North Wales. Leaders in the outdoor education field, there is something for every school to enjoy...

Delamere – perfect for younger visitors

Nestled in Delamere forest, this sole-occupancy centre is perfect for first time residential goers. The cosy centre is a home from home, with everything you need in the one house. All the activities are integrated within the unique forest surroundings and can be accessed by simply stepping outside the gate! The Delamere centre specialises in supporting the geography and science curriculum by discovering and learning all about the wider environment that pupils share with the animals, plants, rivers and mosses of Delamere Forest. Park Road Primary School loved their time here, adding that it was the “perfect setting to enhance our Science topic”.

Burwardsley: bring the history curriculum to life

Schools have been taking their classes for years to the Burwardsley centre. Here’s why...

Situated in the Cheshire Village just off the Sandstone Trail, this sole-occupancy centre has everything you need for an enriching, curriculum-linked residential. With its very own Iron Age roundhouse, this centre brings the history curriculum to life. Children will instantly be transported back in time as they visit the Iron Age roundhouse and enjoy activities such as taking part in an Archaeological dig, clay-pot making and wattle and daub construction. When children return back to the classroom they will be able to put everything they have learnt on their residential into their class work.

Tattenhall: something for everyone to enjoy

Tattenhall is the largest Cheshire centre and offers high-rope, land-based, creative arts and off-site adventure activities, ensuring there is something for every child to enjoy. With two accommodation blocks, the Tattenhall centre can accommodate up to 80 children making it perfect for taking more than one form or year group!

World War Two Experience Day

Experience first-hand what it was like to live on Britain’s Home Front during World War Two. Set in the historic village of Tattenhall with World War Two landmarks, stories and real-life experiences at every turn - children will learn through an immersive and active series of activities and workshops from the moment they arrive through to when they leave.

Whether it is reaching new heights on the Tree Climb, creating art pieces in the classroom or taking part in a World War Two experience day – Tattenhall has so much to offer.



• Step inside historic fittings like a World War Two shelter or Iron Age roundhouse (below).



Schools say the staff are the highlight of their stay...

Leaders in the outdoor education industry, the highly qualified staff have a combined total of over 200 years’ experience at the centres and live and breathe adventure. From kayaking to the Antarctic, climbing El Capitan, to some staff even commuting to work by a kayak or boat – schools often say the staff are what sets Conway Centres apart from the others out there:

“Our children have been well cared for, challenged and celebrated. They have all achieved so much because of the excellent teaching and support. Our staff also love coming because we are so well looked after.” – The Mount Primary, visited September 2024.

“Excellent range of activities with different levels of challenge. The staff are the reason we return every year. Knowledgeable and experienced staff who are enthusiastic about the outdoors and learning.” – Mottram St Andrews, visited June 2024.

“Great to see the life skills that our pupils gain from the residential. It is the one trip all pupils talk about for years after.” – Ashton on Mersey, visited July 2024.

“When I was doing Via Ferrata I had to step off a high ledge and I said, ‘I can’t do it’ and the instructor said ‘I wouldn’t tell you to do it if you couldn’t do it.’” – Child who visited Conway Centres, Anglesey.

Anglesey: home to high adventure

Overlooking the Snowdonian Mountain Range is Conway Centres, Anglesey. Home to high adventure, Anglesey offers a whole host of land-based, water-based, high-rope and off-site adventure activities, making it perfect for older primary school visitors and secondary schools. All you have to do is set your outcomes and the team will get busy planning the rest. Whether you want thrill-seeking activities to support with building resilience, a trip that combines adventure with revision sessions, or you want to go beyond the centre and explore all that North Wales has to offer, whatever your learning outcomes Conway Centres can support. ●

For more information visit www.conwaycentres.co.uk, email conwaycentres@edsential.co.uk or call 01248 714501.

The importance of Remembrance



Rachel Smith, head of learning and participation at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire, explains all about school visits.

Can you introduce your venue?

The National Memorial Arboretum is a 150-acre site on the edge of the National Forest in Staffordshire, and part of the Royal British Legion. We welcome over 300,000 visitors to site each year, including over 25,000 young people for formal and informal learning visits. Visitors can enjoy discovering over 400 memorials nestled amongst some 25,000 trees, experience riverside walks and participate in a wide variety of daily activities. Through the work we do we ensure that the unique contribution of those who have served and sacrificed is never forgotten, and the baton of Remembrance is passed on through the generations.

What can Learning Groups get from a visit to the National Memorial Arboretum?

A visit to the Arboretum offers learning groups a unique opportunity to explore the importance of Remembrance

while also engaging with a wide range of curriculum-linked subjects such as arts, science, literacy, and geography, as well as marking key dates and anniversaries. Through our fully inclusive learning programme, the Arboretum provides interactive and meaningful experiences that actively involve learners of all ages, helping them to develop knowledge, understanding, and critical thinking in an inspiring and reflective environment.

What facilities can you offer school groups wanting to visit?

The Arboretum offers a wide range of facilities and programmes designed to ensure that every visit is fully accessible, inclusive, and tailored to the needs of each school. Our specialist onsite learning team works closely with groups to provide amended and adapted programmes, with options ranging from free educational events and facilitated Explorer Days to self-led packs and resources supported by an introductory film. To enhance the learning experience, we provide two purpose-built classrooms in our award-winning Remembrance Centre, outdoor discovery shelters, and two children's playgrounds for breaks and active learning.



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We also have the added convenience of free on-site coach parking, and, new for this school year, we have a travel bursary scheme offering schools up to £500 for support towards their travel, making the opportunity to access the schools offer at the Arboretum equitable for all children and removing the financial barrier.

Why is this year an ideal time to visit the Arboretum?

This year marks a very special milestone as the Arboretum turns 25 years old! To celebrate, we've created an exciting programme that reflects on our journey so far, and shines a light on the many stories of service and sacrifice that shape our site. Through arts, culture, and storytelling, we're helping young people connect with Remembrance in meaningful ways, exploring the site while supporting a wide range of educational needs.

We're also delighted to introduce a series of new learning events for schools, including free sessions on Mental Health Awareness, Black History Month, Exploring Pride, and Windrush. These sit alongside our current popular learning activities, such as Animals in Remembrance and People Who Help Us for Early Years and KS1, as well as World War I and II Explorer Days for older students. We also have a range of guided tours and the newly refreshed Poppy Activity, offering even more ways to engage and inspire learners of all ages.

• Rachel told us that "there's nowhere else in the country quite like it."



National Memorial Arboretum ■



• Learners can connect with Remembrance through arts, culture and storytelling.

What separates a visit to the Arboretum from other school trips?

The National Memorial Arboretum is truly unique – there's nowhere else in the country quite like it. As a cross-curricular site, we offer schools an incredible opportunity to support learning outside the classroom, with experiences that connect to a wide range of subjects. Entry to the Arboretum is free of charge, and schools can choose from our exciting programme of free themed activity days, bespoke paid sessions, or enjoy a self-led visit supported by a range of downloadable resources to make the most of your time on site.

Set within a safe and secure 150-acre landscape, the Arboretum offers endless opportunities to inspire and engage. Whether your focus is nature, wildlife and outdoor learning, exploring the history of Remembrance and the World Wars, or even following our popular Stick Man Trail, there is truly something for everyone to discover.

How can young learners get involved in the work of the Arboretum?

For those interested, we offer a wide range of opportunities for young people 13-25. This year alone, we have 33 young volunteers who join us regularly either as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award or as an Arboretum Ambassador on regular weekends, and six people on our Youth Steering Group, making sure a youth voice is placed at the heart of our development.

Over the summer we welcomed 20 work experience students from local schools and colleges, offering hands-on experience across many departments, including with our events and Grounds teams, and three students have joined us from a local college for a year-long placement in the grounds team. ●

For more information about the Arboretum's full learning programme and to book your next visit, go to thenma.org.uk or email education@thenma.org.uk.