

# Community Rail Lancashire



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**'Passengers of the future'**  
Curriculum links and sessions guide – October 2016

# Contents

## **Outline and Purpose ..... 2**

What is Community Rail?  
Objectives for CRLs Education Engagement Programme  
Guidance  
Accrington Eco Station

## **Curriculum Guidance ..... 4**

Lower KS2 Years 3 & 4  
- Curriculum Links  
-Activity ideas

Upper KS2 Years 5 & 6  
- Curriculum Links  
-Activity ideas

## **Session Sample ..... 9**

## **Sessions Guidance ..... 10**

## **Previous project work ..... 11**

## **School Feedback ..... 12**

## **Useful Links & Contacts ..... 13**

# Outline & Purpose

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## What is Community Rail?

Community Rail is the support of railway lines and stations by local organisations, through Community Rail Partnerships (CRPs) comprising railway operators, local councils, other community organisations and rail user groups with the purpose of increasing ridership and engaging the community, supporting regeneration of local railways.

Community Rail Lancashire is made up of four CRPs that cover a total of seven lines or routes and these are one of the biggest groups of CRPs in the country. The five are:

- Clitheroe Line CRP – Clitheroe to Manchester Victoria;
  - East Lancashire CRP – Colne to Preston;
  - South Fylde Line CRP – Blackpool South to Preston;
  - West of Lancs CRP – Preston to Ormskirk and Wigan to Southport;
- In addition, CRL also supports:
- Leeds, Lancaster & Morecambe CRP – Leeds to Morecambe (the Bentham Line) shared with North Yorkshire.

CRL is managed on a day to day basis by Richard Watts, who is the director of the company. Alongside Richard are two Community Rail Development Officers, Brian Haworth and Simon Clarke, two Community Rail Education Development Officers, Daisy Chapman-Chamberlain and Emily Elliott, all of whom are funded by contributions from Arriva Rail North and other partners with additional support from an Educational volunteer, Marjorie Birch.

## Objectives for CRLs education engagement programme

Community Rail Lancashire aims to expand community involvement through the educational sector, developing an awareness of the railway through significant links to the National Curriculum that contributes to the learning and development of children and young people. Community Rail aims to:

- Increase ridership through family use of the railway, inspiring a passion for the railway in the young
- Develop a sound knowledge of rail safety and the history of local stations
- Engaging with the community and encouraging school participation in projects

## Guidance

This guide has been developed by Community Rail Lancashire to provide an insight to the programmes of education the Community Rail sector can offer to primary schools, both qualified teachers and experienced development officers have collaboratively used the National Curriculum to generate meaningful sessions that develop an in-depth knowledge of; the railway's purpose and history; the life skills required for use of public transport and the development of educational knowledge that pupils can acquire during an out of classroom experience.

Community rail aims to cater for all ages and learners thus this document is self-explanatory in that it is a 'guide' as to how we can assist with providing a purposeful visit relevant to pupils learning in school, the programmes we offer can be tailored towards your school depending upon the requirements for learning. For example, if you have a specific subject you would like to focus on or a theme to link the railway into a session focusing on this can be developed with one of the Education Officers.

This guide has been divided amongst the key stages to be relevant to all ages, the National Curriculum has been used as a basis for what the children learn about the railway. For each subject curriculum links have been made relevant to the specific key stage, objectives have been created and session ideas for your educational visit. Community Rail Lancashire is committed to the idea that children have the life skills required to understand how to use the railway safely; we offer sessions outside of our educational rooms such as train rides between local stations, visiting destinations via the rail and visiting school to deliver sessions. We aim to develop a first-hand experience for children to apply their skills and learning, whether this be conducting a survey on passenger usage or understanding station signage to board a train safely.

Currently, Community Rail Lancashire delivers an initial session in school, to introduce children to railway artefacts, and to familiarise them with the staff from CRL. The children then use the railway on a separate day to travel to a relevant 'educational' station for the programme of activities chosen by the school from our guide, or a tailored day of activities as specified through work with the school.

We are a flexible community organisation and strive to work in partnership with schools to provide an enhanced educational experience for pupils. This has seen project work in the past involving the development of local stations; please see our previous project work section as an insight into the partnership we can offer.

## Accrington Eco Station

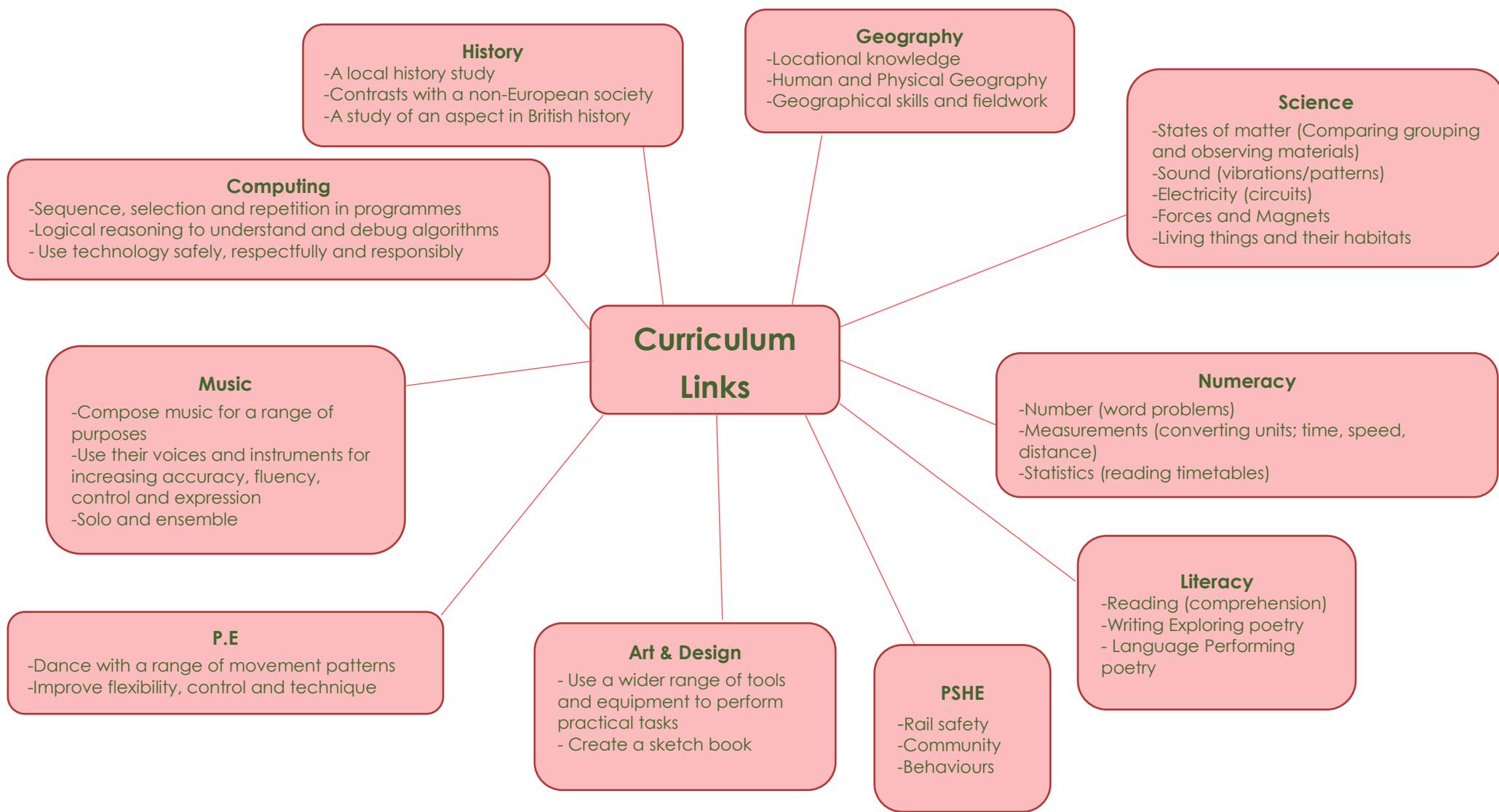
- Accrington is the main base for Community Rail Lancashire, apart from the booking office there is also an area beneath it known as 'the bunker'!
- We have children visiting to learn all about the history of the railway, railway safety, how to use the train safely and touring the station.
- We do lots of exciting projects and activities with children in our Education room at Accrington station all linked in with the curriculum, examples of these include; train poetry, creating wind spinners, reading timetables, rail safety talks and creating a journey map.
- We plan projects that have seen children's artwork decorate stations all over Lancashire in line with the school's current topics and themes.
- We help groups of people to look after the railway and the stations.



## Curriculum Guidance

The following spider diagrams have been introduced to showcase the areas of the curriculum we can provide meaningful sessions within, alongside this is a more in-depth table to explain the areas within the specific subject that we can cover and session ideas for working with a class. These are a basic example of how we can work with schools in line with the curriculum to provide purposeful sessions and can be adapted to meet the needs of individual schools.

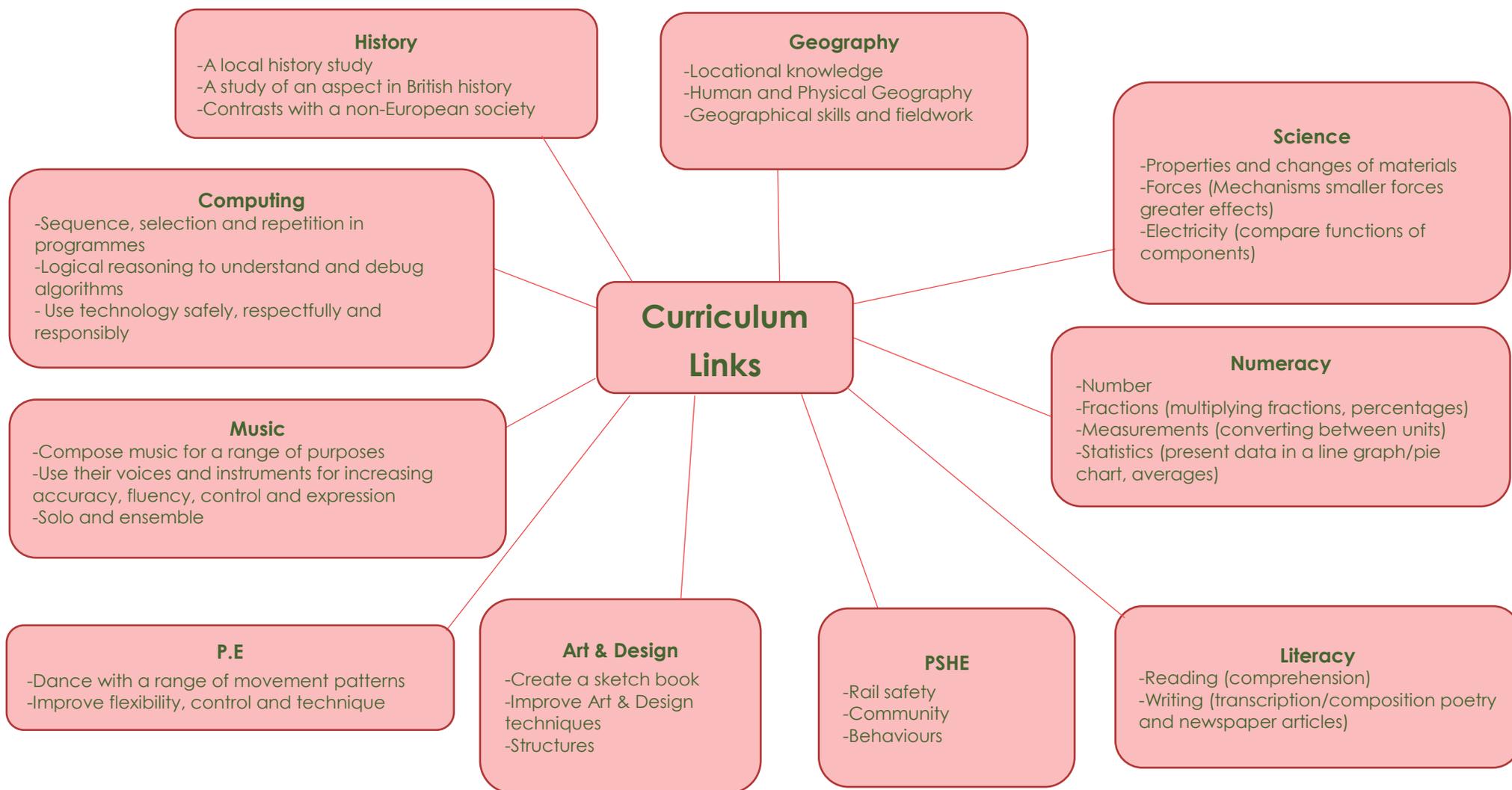
## Lower KS2 Years 3 & 4



## Science

Subject Area	Curriculum Objectives	Activity Ideas – Activities related to journey/visit to the station
<b>Forces and Magnets</b>	Compare how things move on different surfaces	Why can't trains move along roads? What surface do they need to function on? Look at the design of a train – a toy train and test this along different surfaces e.g. grass, concrete, a railway track. Record observations and justify the best surface/why
<b>Electricity</b>	Recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit	Identify how different circuits function along the railway through generating a circuit as a group
<b>States of matter</b>	Observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled	Solids, liquids and gases on the railway – what is used for building railways and keeping them running – different types of stone, brick, metal, fluids, fuels, steam and CO2 etc.
<b>Living things and their habitats</b>	Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.	How can Railway lines contribute to helping the environment? Design a bird box for a station

## Upper KS2 Years 5 & 6



## Numeracy

Subject Area	Curriculum Objectives	Activity Ideas – Activities related to journey/visit to the station
<b>Number</b>	Solve addition and subtraction multi-step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why	Money – Purchasing tickets Calculations/Word problems – passenger numbers and calculations e.g. 12 people get on the train at Rose Grove and there are 34 on already, at the next station 3 leave the train and 16 get on, how many people are on the train now? How many carriages would be full?
<b>Fractions</b>	Multiply proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers	Finding fractions of time and quantities to solve problems
<b>Measurements</b>	Solve problems involving converting between units of time	Use of analogue and digital clocks Word problems Finding information in a timetable – train home Calculating time differences – journey time Calculating distances between station
<b>Statistics</b>	Solve comparison, sum and difference problems using information presented in a line graph complete, read and interpret information in tables, including timetables.	Interpret data shown in data and charts Collect and present data – collaborative group work for the creation of a pictogram

## Session Sample

The following is a 'sample' of what a session may look like with a school.

Please note this is only a sample and is not the full detailed version of a CRL lesson plan.

### Introduction

Display an enlarged party invitation. Ask the children to discuss the type of information shown. Allow a short time for discussion, which could include date, venue, time, dress code, etc. Annotate the displayed invitation. Refer to the railway tickets. Query why rail tickets are required and necessary? Ask the children, in pairs, to make a note of the information shown on their ticket, including the similarities and differences. Make a list of the children's findings. Do the children know how and where to buy a rail ticket?

### Challenge - groups

Using a selection of used rail tickets, ask the groups to make a table containing information, e.g.

Class	Start Date	From/To	Number	Price	Adult/Child

Ask the children to complete the tables. Using maps, extend the challenge by finding out which journey was the longest.

### Activity - in pairs

Set up a journey scenario, e.g. from a local railway station to London on a given date. Using laptops or tablets ask the children to find the most cost and time effective route using internet sites, e.g. [www.northernrail.co.uk](http://www.northernrail.co.uk), [www.merseyrail.org](http://www.merseyrail.org), [www.thetrainline.com](http://www.thetrainline.com) (child friendly). Print out some results.

### Outcomes

Allow time for feedback. Who found the cheapest ticket? Who found the quickest route? Did the children find the websites clear and easy to navigate? Have the children confidently demonstrated their knowledge of how to purchase a ticket on-line?

### Independent Learning

Find out how 'Oyster' cards are used in London. (Alternatively, check out Portugal's *Lisboa Card* for a European city example.) What are the benefits of this form of contract?



# Sessions Guidance

For more information on the sessions we offer please visit: [www.downtheline.co.uk](http://www.downtheline.co.uk)

An Educational Learning Journey



Community Rail:  
A destination for  
Education



Project Partnership



School Visits



Station Tours



## Previous Project Work

### All Change at Cherry Tree –

<http://www.communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/all-change-at-cherry-tree-2/>



### All Together Now -

<http://www.communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/all-together-now/>



**My Mill Hill -** <http://www.communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/my-mill-hill-2/>



### Rose Grove -

<http://www.communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/rose-grove-revived/>



# Schools Feedback

## Teacher's Feedback

'It is very easy to fit these visits and linked project work to a number of Creative Curriculum topics encompassing KS2 learning objectives. I have found that the resulting work after one of these visits has been of the highest standard as has been demonstrated through work now on display at Whalley Station.' Vikki Hall

'After a very exciting lead up to the visit the children weren't disappointed. They really enjoyed the train journey and because of your visit prior to the trip, they were able to point out areas of interest along the way. As some of the children had never been on a train before it was a very valuable experience.' Caroline

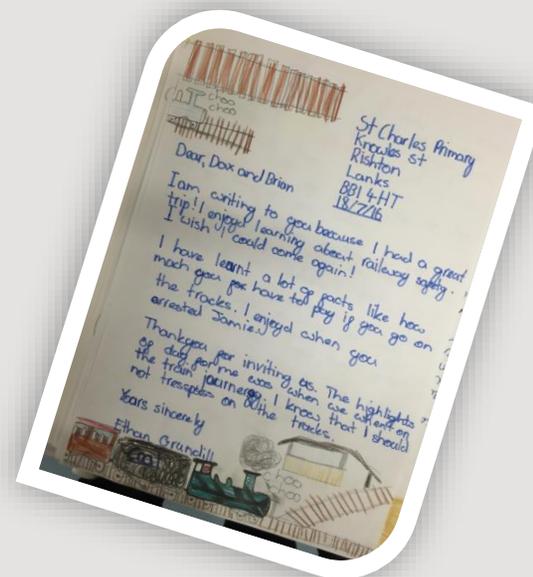
## Pupil's Feedback



'I learnt lots of facts about wind turbines and to never go on the tracks.' Freya

'I am writing to tell you I had fun at the bunker, especially when we made the trains and learnt stuff we never knew.' Lewis

'I enjoyed learning about railway safety, the highlight for me was when we went on the train journey!' Ethan



Please find more feedback here:  
[www.downtheline.co.uk](http://www.downtheline.co.uk)

## Useful Links & Contacts

### Useful Links

Community Rail Lancashire - [www.communityraillancashire.co.uk](http://www.communityraillancashire.co.uk)

Down the Line website – [www.downtheline.co.uk](http://www.downtheline.co.uk)

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**Additional Support**

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