



Hardwick Park



Making a Visit

Preliminary visits

It is free to make a preliminary visit and it can be done at anytime during park opening hours, we believe that leaders may find it beneficial to visit the park prior to the trip to gain an understanding of the park and what it has to offer.

Arrival

We ask that all groups aim to arrive 15 minutes before the start of the workshop. Coaches will be met by staff in the designated coach park which is located between the main and overflow car park. Groups will then be accompanied to their base for the day, where they will be given an opportunity to leave their belongings and in the case of larger groups, assigned their Education Assistant for the day. Toilet facilities will be available if required before the start of your workshop.

Supervision

We recommend ratios of 1 adult for every group of 6 KS1 children, and 1 adult for every group of 10 KS2 children. In some sessions for KS2 children you may wish to consider higher ratios to help facilitate a better experience for the children. Accompanying teachers/ group leaders are responsible for providing adequate supervision for their group and making sure the group's conduct reflects the visitor code. Members of the education team reserve the right to stop an activity if they feel that there is not sufficient supervision in place.

Clothing

Please ensure pupils and accompanying adults are dressed appropriately for a park visit. Clothes suitable for outdoor conditions and comfortable footwear (please avoid wearing open toe shoes) are recommended. During the winter months gloves and hats are highly beneficial as well as sun hats and cream during the summer months. Please be aware that workshops generally do not stop during poor weather conditions or when it is very hot.

Cancellation

We understand that in some circumstances it may not be possible or appropriate to continue your visit. If you need to make a cancellation please contact the Parks and Countryside Education Officer immediately to arrange an alternative date and allow us to offer your space to another group. Please be aware that depending on circumstances, cancellations within seven days may incur a charge of up to 50% of the cost. If Hardwick park need to cancel your trip you will be contacted as soon as possible. Every effort will be made to ensure a convenient alternative date is found and groups will not be charged until this visit takes place.

For further information please contact the Education Officer on 03000 262 845 or via outdoorlearning@durham.gov.uk

<http://www.durham.gov.uk/hardwickpark>

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Visitor code

Please help us to preserve the Park and ensure your safety:

- ~ Take your litter home or put it in the bins provided.
- ~ Do not pick plants or flowers.
- ~ Respect wildlife and other users of the park.
- ~ If you would like to feed the birds please purchase seed from the Visitor Centre rather than bringing bread which can be unhealthy and potentially dangerous for the birds.
- ~ Please be aware that touching plants and other objects from nature can cause allergic reactions in some individuals.
- ~ Ultimately, pupils are your responsibility, never leave them unsupervised.
- ~ Be extra cautious around Hardwick's ponds. There is very deep water on site.
- ~ While it is fine to feed the birds, please keep your distance. Remember these are wild animals and can be temperamental!

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