

## The Harrold-Odell Country Park welcomes school and youth groups



The Chellington Centre overlooks the adjacent Harrold Odell Country Park ([hocp.co.uk](https://hocp.co.uk)) which can be accessed from the Centre on foot or with a vehicle. It is free to visit and there is ample parking for a £1 donation.

The Park offers an inspirational environment for both curriculum-based and informal visits and is extensively used by local Primary Schools for geography, art and science topics.

The Park encourages self-guided activities but these visits should be booked by contacting the staff by telephone on 01234 720016 or by email on [hocp@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:hocp@bedford.gov.uk). They share all the educational resources, activities, fact sheets and recognition sheets with school and youth groups.

There are three lovely lakes to explore with all manner of wild-fowl and environmental management to discover. If your group is bigger than 10 in total, please email via their website or call the rangers well in advance to let them know when you will be visiting.



## **Directions from the Centre**

**On foot (850m):** Go over the stile at the south east corner of the Centre's garden wall. Walk along the footpath west downhill and across the river meadow to metal turnstile. Two leaders should guide a group in single-file over the bridge. There is a long light phase for pedestrian/horse access at the traffic lights. 100m on right is the entrance to the park.

**Please help yourselves to our yellow waistcoats provided for leaders found in reception and if you have booked the 'Games Package', you may wish to use our head torches and fluorescent child sized safety waistcoats.**

### **Facilities include:**

- Introductory leaflet including a detailed map
- Welcome Trail and leaflet
- Well-marked paths
- Outdoor learning area with picnic tables
- Outdoor classroom with lockable storage
- Toilets with direct access from the park

### **The Dragonfly Café**

There is disabled access to the café, toilets and outdoor classroom. Access around the Park is limited to the main circular route and to the outdoor classroom and to a pond dipping platform (over a grass path).

Parking is limited especially for coaches for which reserved spaces must be arranged in advance with the park staff.

### **Booking a school or group visit**

Park staff are in the park during the working day and happy to talk to teachers in advance of school visits. Guided activities by the staff are very limited and are restricted to local schools but must be negotiated in advance.

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