

The Outdoor Classroom



- A Handbook of Local Environmental Sites and Organisations for Education, Lifelong Learning and Play



SOUTH YORKSHIRE
forest
A National community forest Partner



INTRODUCTION

There is a growing concern that, for a number of reasons, opportunities for outdoor learning have substantially decreased in recent years. This is despite the fact that evidence now suggests that fieldwork, properly planned and well taught, offers learners opportunities to develop their skills and knowledge in ways that greatly add value to their classroom experiences. Indeed, effective fieldwork can have a positive impact on long term memory and can lead to individual growth and improvements in social skills. A recent House of Commons Committee concluded that-

'Fieldwork clearly enhances the teaching of science and geography, but other subjects such as history, art and design and citizenship can also be brought to life by high quality educational visits. Group activities can develop social skills and give self confidence. Furthermore, outdoor education has a key role to play in the social inclusion agenda, offering children who may not otherwise have the opportunity, the simple chance to experience the countryside or other parts of our heritage that many others take for granted.'

This links so clearly with the aims of the Every Child Matters document and contributes in no small part to the personalisation agenda.

To quote Professor Tim Brighouse; *'One lesson outdoors is worth seven inside'*.

Organising and conducting fieldwork with children, however, is not without its challenges for busy teachers. It takes time and knowledge and issues of health and safety can be daunting, to say nothing of the cost. In a city like Sheffield, however, there are vast opportunities for fieldwork relatively close at hand within the locality. Most schools are within walking distance of an area of ancient woodland, for example, and many schools have school grounds that present enormous potential for development. There is a network of nature reserves across the region, encompassing moorland, forest and wetlands. The region is so rich in heritage sites and museums that there are few aspects of the geography and history curriculum that cannot be illustrated at first hand. There are urban farms and heritage parks within the inner city. As well as this there are a number of organisations with skilled practitioners that can provide support on high quality, risk assessed activities both on your school site and at outdoor centres.

This handbook aims to give schools as full information as possible about the many local organisations that can support you in taking full advantage of the opportunities available. It also aims to give you information about some of the many sites that are available for your class to visit.

One major drawback in publishing a handbook like this is that the information will very quickly go out of date. For this reason it will be available on one of the South Yorkshire Forest websites—www.greensites.co.uk.

For enquiries on entries to this handbook please contact
Peter Machan, Education Officer, South Yorkshire Forest Partnership,
0114 2571199 peter.machan@syforest.co.uk

Selected Outdoor Studies Sites in South Yorkshire.



Farms and Animal Centres Page 12/13

1. Cannon Hall Farm
2. Wigfield Farm
3. Heeley City Farm
4. Graves Park Animal Centre
5. Whirlow Hall Farm



Environmental Studies Centres Page 8

1. Wood Lane Farm
2. Mayfield Outdoor Studies Centre
3. Shire Brook Valley Centre



Heritage Woodlands Page 6/7

1. White City Woodlands
2. Glen Howe Park
3. Chapeltown Woods
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5. Roe Woods
6. Bowden Housteads Wood
7. Ecclesall Woods
8. Gleadless Valley Woods
9. Canklow Wood
10. Wickersley Wood
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Country Parks and Reserves
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1. Worsbrough Country Park
2. Rother Valley Country Park
3. RSPB Old Moor Wetland Centre
4. Ulley Country Park
5. Thrybergh Country Park
6. Yorkshire Sculpture Park



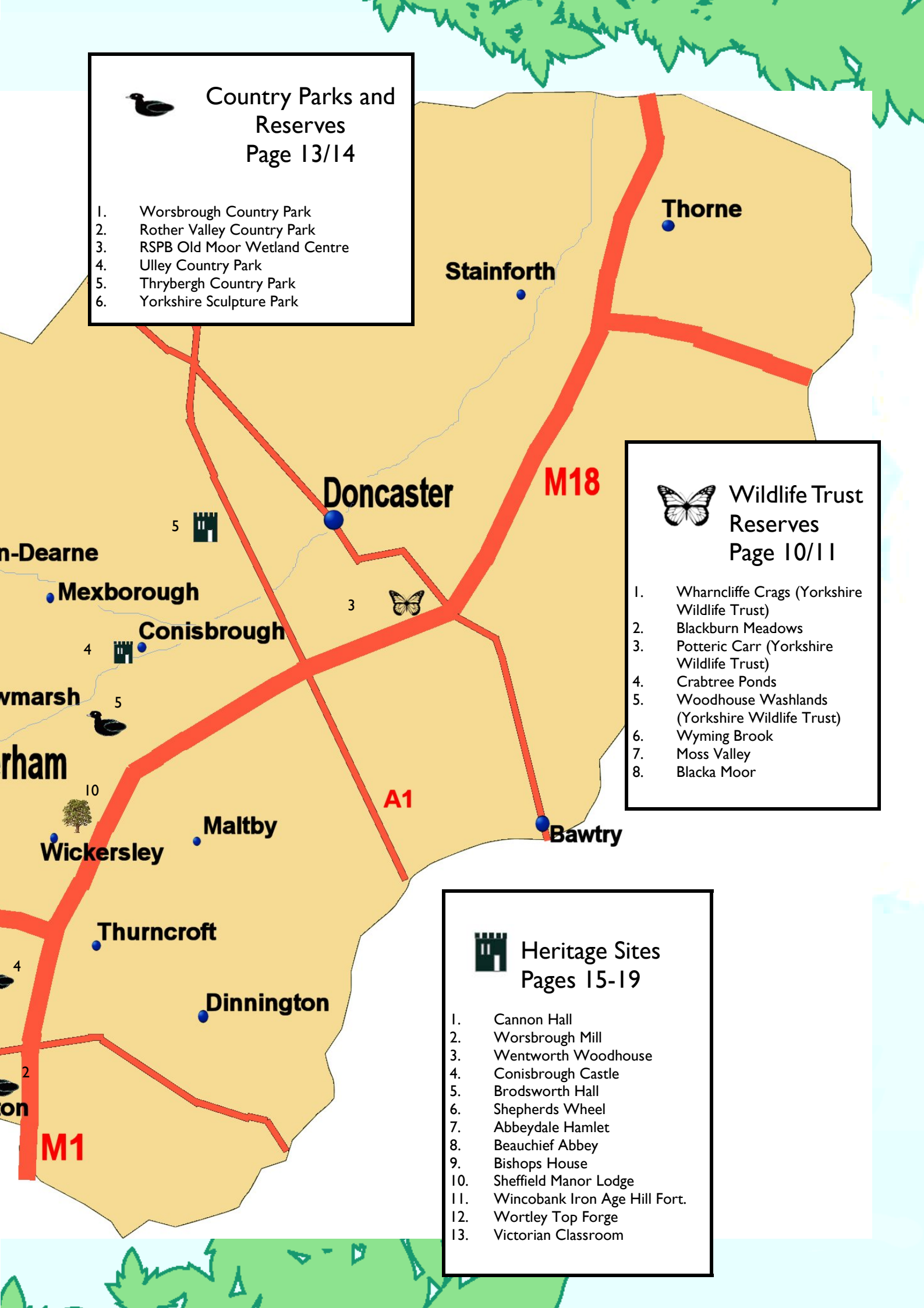
Wildlife Trust Reserves
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1. Wharnciffe Crag (Yorkshire Wildlife Trust)
2. Blackburn Meadows
3. Potteric Carr (Yorkshire Wildlife Trust)
4. Crabtree Ponds
5. Woodhouse Washlands (Yorkshire Wildlife Trust)
6. Wyming Brook
7. Moss Valley
8. Blacka Moor



Heritage Sites
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1. Cannon Hall
2. Worsbrough Mill
3. Wentworth Woodhouse
4. Conisbrough Castle
5. Brodsworth Hall
6. Shepherds Wheel
7. Abbeydale Hamlet
8. Beauchief Abbey
9. Bishops House
10. Sheffield Manor Lodge
11. Wincobank Iron Age Hill Fort.
12. Wortley Top Forge
13. Victorian Classroom



LOCAL GREEN SPACES



Parks & Countryside Ranger Service

www.sheffield.gov.uk/out-about/parks-woodlands-countryside/ranger-service

The Ranger Service offers a wide range of activities, information, guidance and support to anyone who wishes to enjoy using Sheffield's green spaces. These include supporting communities, practical projects for people and wildlife, education and interpretation, health activities and acting as guardians of the city's green spaces. The Rangers offer support for schools during term and holiday times on developing your school grounds or using your local green spaces for education. Environmental activities linked to the National Curriculum include pond dipping, tree and bulb planting, bird and bat box making.

- § **Four Ranger teams** cover green spaces within different geographic areas of Sheffield.
- § **The Health Projects Team** work city-wide, their work includes the Health Walks Project, part of a national project to improve the health of people in local communities by encouraging walking in the local environment, and the **Growing Together Allotment Project**.
- § **Project Rangers** work on a number of projects targeted to improve specific areas. They aim to engage with the local community and schools and are extremely useful contacts for environmental activities with schools.
- § **The Green Watch Project** is a new community safety project forming part of the Crime and Disorder Strategy with four Rangers in key target areas.

For more information about the work of the Rangers, contact the teams directly or contact the Ranger Service Head Office at Parks and Countryside on 0114 250 500.

North Team	Cruck Barn, Concord Park	240 3578
South Team	Ranger Base, Greenhill Park	283 9195
East Team	Centre in the Park, Norfolk Heritage Park	275 1176
West Team	Ranger Base, Endcliffe Park	268 6196
Health Projects	First Start Centre, Firth Park	203 9337

Project Rangers

The Three Parks Programme (Colley, Longley and Parson Cross Parks)		246 4989
Manor Area	Nick Blood	275 1176
Manor Fields	Rebecca O'Dowd	276 2828
Darnall Greenspaces	Hannah Shaw	243 4992
Hillsborough Park	Nick Blood	232 6048
Hillsborough Walled Garden	Steve Bills	281 2167
Gleadless Valley		283 9195
South East Sheffield Woodlands	Chris Smith	275 1176

Green Watch Project Rangers

Sharrow/Burngreave,	Kevin Sandham-Mulholland	245 9749
Shiregreen/Brightside	John Langley	245 9749
Gleadless Valley/Darnall	Richard Saunders	261 1925
Manor/Arbourthorne	Jake Bonsall	261 1925

Ranger Services Manager	Peter Slater	273 4132
Ranger Services Administrative Support	June Burke	273 4083

Further information on the Ranger Service is available on the Sheffield City Council website.

A full programme of Ranger Events can be downloaded from the website or is available by request, please telephone 273 4083.

Health Walks Project

Sue Lee Asst Project Ranger, **C/o South Ranger Team, Greenhill Park 283 9195**

This is part of a national project, mainly aimed at adults, to help improve health of people in local communities by encouraging walking in the local environment. Full programme of weekly events.

The Community Partnerships Team

Michelle Gane and Joanne Mansell 2736816, 273 6884

The Community Partnerships Team support a large number of groups who are actively involved in improving their local greenspace through fundraising, practical work and events. We have comprehensive information packs available for Parks and Countryside 'friends' and community groups which provide information and support on a range of subjects including how to organise your group; obtaining funding for your group's projects; organising small community events and links with other groups in your area. We also assist individuals in identifying local greenspace volunteering opportunities.

Sheffield Trees & Woodlands Team. www.sheffield.gov.uk/out--about/parks-woodlands--countryside

Jon Dallow: Woodland Project Officer Jon.dallow@sheffield.gov.uk Telephone: 0114 2500 500

Karen Wood: Community Forester Karen.wood@sheffield.gov.uk

Ted Talbot: Woodland Project Officer ted.Talbot@sheffield.gov.uk

Sheffield is the most wooded city in the country and the vision for the team is that by the end of key stage 3 every child in Sheffield has had the opportunity for a positive Tree/woodland experience. Young people of Sheffield have the skills to positively use, cherish and enjoy Sheffield's trees & woodlands; Education, Play and childcare Professionals have the skills, understanding and toolkit to help unlock the value of trees/woodlands through their work.

Some of the following services will involve a cost. Please contact the Trees and Woodlands Team for further information.

We offer opportunities for:

- Stand alone classroom based resources and publications. In school education/setting activity sessions.
- Outdoor Trees/Woodland activity sessions. Open access play provision activities.
- Staff/ professional training, development and accreditation programs. Signposting and consultancy

In School/Setting Sessions:

- Value of Trees & Woodlands classroom session. Advice and help on School grounds Tree & Bulb planting.
- 'Woodland Detectives' Big Book story sack session Storytelling

Outdoor Trees and Woodlands Activity Sessions:

(Suitable for Key stage 1-3 activities, eg. investigating your local area,)

-Community Tree Planting: Tree planting activities in your local school grounds, area, park or woodland. Involving children, parents and wider community. Tools, equipment, trees provided. Project would run minimum of three sessions.

-Woodland Camp: Two hour woodland based session. Children have a go at traditional woodland crafts such as green wood turning 'bodging', hurdle making, as well as finding out about the importance of woodlands.

-Bodgers' Camp: Using traditional woodland crafts, tools, fire and other activities children join a traditional woodland camp for the day. The focus is on developing PSE skills. Developing citizenship, building trust, improving communication and increasing self esteem.

-Woodland Adventure Days: A wide range of woodland based activities can be provided from arts projects, to aerial runways and tree slides and team challenges, to support enhance your trip, field visit or playscheme.

-Sawmill Visits

Follow the journey from 'seed to saw', as you see timber from your local woods, felled, harvested then milled. Find out about the history of the people who used to work in Sheffield woods and visit the sawmill. Coming soon.

-Forest School Programs see www.forestschoools.com

Sheffield Forest Schools Network (Forest School leader training) Forest Schools taster days.

Accredited Training and Development:

- Out of School Network, Exploring Environmental/Elemental Play course Outdoor space course Staff inset training.

Signposting and consultancy:

- Advice provided on local woodland to visit
- Play schemes, Surestarts, schools, group support programs and projects developed and designed.

Community Foresters

Contact through Meersbook Park office on 2500 500

Tim Shortland, Burngreave community Forestry Project.

Chris Roberts, Community Tree Officer for Darnall

Karen Wood, Community Tree Officer, Brightside and Shiregreen.

Recent projects include- **The Trees and Woodland Experience.** Course of sessions on tree planting in school grounds, learning the history and significance of local woods and visiting a woodland camp on a local site with 7 north Sheffield schools. This project can be organised to suit your school. **One World Tree Planting and Story Project.** 6 Schools around Burngreave. Planting trees from around the world in Abbeyfield Park. Working with storyteller towards writing and publishing book of **Tree Tales and Trails** and **Bodgers Camps** in various woods such as Roe Woods and Gleadless Valley.

Tinsley Tree Project

Mandy Burton, Education Officer, 07779 268036 Rodney Heslop, 07775 852667

A very helpful team, able and willing to advise and assist schools in NE. Sheffield with tree planting and activity sessions both outdoors and classroom based.

Stocksbridge Steel Valley and Upper Don Project.

Matt North 0114 283 0880

This team are available to help and advise on environmental projects around Stocksbridge, Deepcar and Wharnciffe Side. They have done excellent management work in Glen Howe Park and have developed trails and manage the Trans-Pennine trail in the Don Valley. The Steel Valley Trail and Deepcar Nature Trail are on the website.

Current project- **'Stone to Steel, 10,000 Years of Human History'** reflects the long history of human habitation in the upper Don Valley.

South Yorkshire Forest Partnership

Peter Machan, Education Officer, 0114 257 1199 www.syforest.co.uk

The South Yorkshire Forest Partnership works to deliver a package of urban, economic and social regeneration. This vision will create high-quality environments for millions of people by diversifying land use, revitalising derelict landscapes, enhancing biodiversity and providing new opportunities for leisure, recreation, cultural activity, education, healthy living and social and economic development. The programmes relevant to schools are-

The 'Fuelling a Revolution' Heritage Woods Programme. www.heritagewoodsonline.co.uk

Maintenance programmes and resources for schools have been delivered with respect to 35 areas of ancient woodland throughout the SY Forest area. Packs include woods fact-packs, poster and worksheet resource pack.

Teacher training days and staff meetings can be arranged on the use of local woodlands and school grounds.

There are woodlands officers in each authority who have responsibility for organising schools events for the duration of the present project. In Sheffield the officer is Ted Talbot, 0114 2500 500.

Leaflets on individual woods available from Meersbrook office, Wheata, Bowden Howsteads, Firth Park, Gleadless valley, Woolley, Roe Woods. More to follow.

'Get Set Grow' schools packs have been produced for all schools. These include curriculum linked worksheets on outdoor activities of all kinds. Pack includes CD Rom called Tree File. All resources on the above website.

'Forest Fever' brochures of summer activities for children are produced each year and distributed to all schools. The **South Yorkshire Wood Fair** is organised at the end of July annually.

Advice and grants for **planting school grounds** is available from members of the team.

Talks and demonstrations on wood, trees and sustainable development can be arranged at small cost.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRES



Thornbridge Outdoors 01629 640491 www.thornbridgeoutdoors.co.uk

Present Head of Centre, Adge Last info@thornbridgeoutdoors.co.uk

Great Longstone, Derbyshire, DE45 1NY

Thornbridge Outdoors is the flagship centre run by Sheffield City Council that provides outdoor and environmental activities for day visits and residential groups. We have two self-contained residential units, the **Lodge** and the **Farm**. We also have a beautifully situated and sheltered **campsite** with showers, washbasins and toilets available to organised groups, that can accommodate up to 40 people. An added attraction of the Camp is the option of using the camp block with fully fitted large kitchen and dining room.

The Lodge accommodates a maximum of 32 people in 9 bedrooms with a dining room / kitchen, classroom / meeting room, shared recreation room and ample toilets, showers and washbasins. The kitchen is fully equipped, bedding is provided and the building is centrally heated.

The Farm is a Grade 2 listed 19th Century building with a charming roundhouse attached, accommodating a maximum of 29 people in seven bedrooms. Spacious dining room, fully equipped kitchen, showers, toilets and washbasins and a shared recreation / meeting room. Bedding is provided and all rooms are centrally heated.

Thornbridge Outdoors is licensed with the Adventure Activities Licensing Authority (Licence No: R0740) for the following activities: hillwalking and mountaineering, rock climbing, abseiling, caving, kayaking, open canoeing (inland and sheltered tidal water) and off road cycling.

On-site sessions are generally best in ½ day or 1/3 day (2 hour) sessions.

Two ½-day activities or three 1/3-day activities can be combined to make a whole day.

Environmental Art - in or outdoors, Nightline, Orienteering, Low Ropes and new High Ropes, Problem Solving, Practical conservation, Zip Wire, Nature trail, pond dipping and habitat studies, Climbing Wall and bouldering, Mountain Bike Course, High Ropes - Net & tree climb, Den Building, Camping.

Off site activities are mostly best as ½ day sessions. Some can be combined if they are in the same area (such as weaselling and climbing), or balanced with a half day on site session. The transport implications need to be considered.

Climbing, Abseiling, Caving, Mine exploration, Cycling, Hill walking, Biking, Local & river valley walks, River Studies, Weaselling, Water Sports, Village studies.

Local Visits are generally 2 hour sessions and can be combined to make a day's activity (such as Pooles Cavern and a swimming pool visit in Buxton), or combined with another ½ day activity on site. Again, transport implications need to be considered. **Matlock Mining Museum, Guided Local Farm Visit, Cauldwell's Mill, Castleton & Buxton Caverns, Mines, and the National Stone Centre** are examples of such visits.

Mayfield Environmental Studies Centre 2303119

Manager, Jane Walker, David Lane, Mayfield Valley, Fulwood.

This well equipped centre, in the delightful Mayfield valley, is run by the Education Authority. There is a huge variety of curriculum linked activities that have been developed by the centre such as Development of a River system, Stream dipping related to Habitats & Food Webs, Tree study (and related activities on Materials) Land Use (diversification including local Alpaca farm)and many others that you can add, as well as themed walks based on geography, natural history, science, geology, local history and industrial archaeology. Termly training courses for teachers

Cost : **£2.85** per child per day / **£1.45** November - February - No charge for adults

Coach travel (if required)- 53 seater coach - September to Easter **£140** / Easter to summer - **£160** per day

Hot meals can be provided at school meal price and free meals for those entitled. Outdoor clothing and footwear provided.

Whirlow Hall Farm, 2360096 www.whirlowhallfarm.co.uk

Education Officer, Mrs. E Smith,

Mixed working hillfarm on west side of Sheffield. Education staff, classrooms and a **residential unit.**

The education team at Whirlow aim to give all visitors a hands-on experience and further understanding of a real working farm. We aim to promote the links between how people can influence the farming environment and our strong dependence on farms. The team strives to provide access and opportunities for all including visitors, volunteers, colleagues and the wider community, giving everybody the chance to work and interact with the environment in a positive, safe and stimulating way.

Schools within the Sheffield LA have special rights for access to the farm as a learning tool for their children. Whirlow Hall Farm is open for day and residential visits all year round including the school holidays where scout, brownie and rainbow groups can take full advantage of our facilities.

Day visits are FREE for Sheffield LEA schools and we can also offer very low cost transport to and from the farm (minimal charge for non LEA establishments). Visits can range from a half day or full day programme including tailor made farm tours and environmental options suitable from nursery age up to secondary KS3 level: choose from minibeasting with our new video microscope, natural art and pony grooming amongst others – options change termly.

Residential visits are a fantastic way to explore a working farm in further detail - we have two farm buildings available for groups to use costing only a few pounds per child for Sheffield LA groups. The Hall is in the heart of the working farm and is a converted 19 th century farmhouse, sleeping 12 children and 2 adults. The converted barn is 5 – 10 minutes walk from the farm centre surrounded by peaceful open fields and is fully equipped to cater for additional support needs and wheel chair users. It also sleeps 12 children and 2 adults. All groups staying on the farm have the chance to assist staff daily with farm jobs and find out about looking after the animals. If you would like to arrange a familiarisation session to view our facilities and to discuss your options then please contact the education team

Sheffield Countryside Centre, 231 6982 or 2855097

Wood Lane Farm, Wood Lane, Stannington

Wood Lane Centre, which is owned by Sheffield City Council and is run in partnership by the North Sheffield Conservation Group and the Sheffield Conservation Trust, is situated near Myers Grove School near Malin Bridge. It lies within a few minutes walk of the Loxley and Rivelin Valleys, both of which offer excellent opportunities for river, habitat and historical studies. The centre is housed in 200 year old stone farm buildings but recent renovation work has created superb facilities for environmental education including an oak beamed classroom or meeting room and extensive wildlife gardens that provide opportunities for pond dipping, minibeast hunts and wildlife habitat studies.

The experienced team officers led by Chris Nutton and Kevin Hill are available to work with schools on environmental education activities such as Woodland walks, Habitat studies, Environmental games, arts and crafts, Conservation activities and Training courses for staff.

Shire Brook Valley Local Nature Reserve Visitor Centre. 257 1176

Chris Smith, East Ranger Team,

The Shirebrook Valley is designated as a Local Nature Reserve and covers 100 hectares. This is a '**Wildspace**' project managed by the Ranger Service and local groups with funding from English Nature. Rangers can lead a range of activities in a number of habitats, including pond dipping. The site consists of a variety of habitats including wetland, woodland, lowland heath and ancient meadows. There are two Visitor Facilities available, one at Shirebrook Valley and one at **Birley Spa Bath House**. The Local Nature Reserve currently has a full time Ranger dedicated to supporting groups and providing educational activities and events. Groups or individuals wishing to organise visits should contact Chris Smith.

Kelham Island Environmental Education Centre, 201 0613

Kirsten Timms, Education Officer,

A very useful and interesting city centre purpose-built study site at the lower end of the island. Ideal for studying geography and the environment. Can be booked **free of charge** (plus museum charge of £1 /child for Sheffield LA schools others £1.50) Teacher led groups can request KS1-KS2 resource packs or can request an **Activity Session** led by one of the freelance educators. (Sessions 1 hr 30 mins. For £37.50) Topics include 'Rivers; the Don from Source to Sea' 'Habitats and Minibeasts.'

ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANISATIONS



RSPB Old Moor Wetland Centre, 01226 273830
www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/o/oldmoor/
Jayne Wood
Dearne Valley, Barnsley

Old Moor is a haven for nature in the heart of the Dearne Valley - a stunning area of wetlands, teeming with birds and other wildlife. With an exciting indoor classroom, well-equipped visitor centre and a range of excellent education facilities, Old Moor is the ideal place to bring your class for an unforgettable experience of nature.

All the programmes are risk-assessed and linked to the National Curriculum. They focus particularly on Science, and are most suitable for children at KS1 and KS2. A visit to Old Moor will increase your pupils' knowledge of the environment through experiential learning and help them understand the value of wildlife and natural places.

Old Moor's 100 hectares of diverse wildlife habitats ranges from open water, marsh and reedbeds, to flower-rich meadows. There is a superb visitor centre in restored farm buildings, which houses a classroom, shop, café and toilets. A number of bird viewing hides and wildlife ponds provide a great opportunity for pupils to get a closer look at the Dearne Valley's fascinating wild creatures.

We limit educational visits to a maximum of two classes (or approximately 60 children) at any one time. For most activities, classes will be split into groups of 15, each accompanied by at least one RSPB field teacher.

Charge per pupil: £1.25 Minimum charge: £30

With the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund, we are able to offer a number of FREE visits and travel bursaries – please call for more details.

The education programmes are full-day sessions (lasting approximately two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon). We will adapt programmes to the age and Key Stage of your pupils. If the topic you would like to study is not here, please ask and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

KS1 FULL-DAY PROGRAMME

A Wild Adventure

This programme consists of four main sessions specifically tailored to this age range, giving a great overall experience of Old Moor's wildlife. The components of the programme are as follows: Pond dipping (1 hour) Minibeast safari (1 hour) Wildlife adventure walk (1 hour) Birdwatching (1 hour)

KS2 FULL-DAY PROGRAMMES

Habitats and adaptation

A chance to explore Old Moor's natural environment, looking at wetland, grassland and woodland habitats. By examining the creatures that live in these habitats, children will gain a greater understanding of how they are adapted to survive. The day will cover the following activities: Pond dipping, Birdwatching, Looking at minibeasts, Examining vegetation, Measuring light and temperature, Comparing habitats

Food chains come alive

Take a closer look at Old Moor's wildlife, focusing on what eats what, and the arrangement of food chains and webs. We will examine in detail creatures in two different habitats, and play a number of food chain games that will reinforce what the children have learned through first-hand experience. The day will cover the following activities:

Pond dipping, Birdwatching, Looking at minibeasts, Using simple keys, Learning food chain vocabulary, Playing food chain games

To book please ring Jayne Wood at Old Moor on 01226 273830 We will then send you an information letter, risk assessments and a booking form for you to complete and return. You may pay on the day or by invoice.

BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) 272 3591 <http://shop.btcv.org.uk/shop/index>
Steve Mulhall or Sue Pearson.

Assistance with working on school grounds and conservation projects. Online shop for wildflowers and tree packs. Courses on practical conservation projects for adults. See website.

Groundwork Sheffield 263 6420

Director, Fergus Beesley, The Brokerage, 19 Paradise Square

Groundwork works in schools and with adults on issues of citizenship and sustainability to illustrate how our individual actions can make a big difference to our own immediate surroundings

Sheffield Wildlife Trust 263 4335 www.wildsheffield.com

Katherine Williams, (Education Manager) Linda Baldwin, (Senior Education officer, early years)

Rachel Stevenson (Community Education Officer) Nicky Moore (Community Education Officer)

37 Stafford Road, S2 2SF

Education Service, 01709 821133

Elmfield House,

Alma Road, Rotherham, S60 2HZ

Our Education Service works to engage children and young people of all ages in outdoor activities and support curriculum teaching and learning. With activities ranging from teddy bears' picnics for 3 year olds to stream surveying with GCSE or A-Level groups, and including programmes which support all areas of the curriculum, we will have something to suit your school or setting. The Trust has developed a range of formal and non-formal education activities which can be based on one of our 10 nature reserves or in your school grounds (or local site). We have a large range of equipment to support our visits including data loggers and field survey equipment. Our education programme is led by a team of specialist staff who have experience and expertise in delivering environmental education projects outdoors.

It's Great Outdoors! -fun activities for early years

Sheffield Wildlife Trust understands how important the outdoor environment is to under 5s. As our project's name suggests we want children to feel that 'It's Great Outdoors' at any time of the year. We have developed a range of fun activities which can be delivered in your own setting, at a local site or at Blackburn Meadows Nature Reserve. Children can play games, activities, and experience wildlife, trees and other plants in their natural environment. The activities are designed to help develop different skills and to support the QCA Curriculum Guidance for the Foundation Stage.

£70 per early years session (1½ hours + pre-visit) Staff training – from £30 per hour

School visits for Key Stages 1 and 2

Our primary schools programmes can be delivered as full day (5 hours including lunch) or half day (2 hours) sessions. We have a range of activities you can choose from which all support cross-curricular learning and the QCA Schemes of Work. We will be happy to adapt sessions to meet your needs or to work with you to develop new activities.

All our activities have been developed to be delivered at Blackburn Meadows Nature Reserve. We are currently only able to offer half day sessions at Blackburn Meadows and we will be happy to adapt any session (full or half day) to be delivered at your own school, on a local site or on another of our nature reserves. We have a range of equipment available to support these sessions including data loggers, survey equipment and waterproofs. Activities are suitable for one class at a time (max 35 pupils). We can also arrange staff training sessions at your setting to help you get the most out of your outdoor environment.

Activities available

Key Stage 1 **Where am I?**

Key Stage 1 **Bugs and Beasties**

Key Stage 1 or 2 **Environmental Art** £80 half day £140 full day

Key Stage 1 or 2 **Forces outdoors** £70 half day £120 full day

Key Stage 2 **Great and Groovy Geography** £70 half day £120 full day

Key Stage 2 **Investigative Skills** £70 half day £120 full day

Key Stage 2 **Citizenship** £70 half day £120 full day

Key Stage 2 **What's for Dinner?** £70 half day £120 full day

Key Stage 2 **Viking Experience** £80 half day £140 full day

Key Stage 2 **Soils and rocks** £70 half day £120 full day

Key Stage 2 **Using data loggers** £70 half day £120 full day

Key Stage 2 **Investigating light outdoors** £70 half day £120 full day

School visits for Secondary Schools

Our secondary schools programmes can be delivered as full day (5 hours including lunch) or half day (2 hours) sessions. We have a range of activities designed to support Science and Geography at Key Stage 3. We can also offer a range of field work activities suitable for Key Stage 4 and A-Level classes - please contact us to discuss these so that we can develop an activity which will meet your requirements. We will be happy to adapt any session to meet your needs or to work with you to develop new activities. All our activities have been developed to be delivered on our Nature Reserves but we will be happy to adapt any session (full or half day) to be delivered at another appropriate site which is easier for you to travel to if necessary.

Activities (suitable for one class at a time, max 35 pupils).

£70 half day £120 full day Assemblies – between £30 and £50 per visit Staff training – from £30 per hour

Key Stage 3 **Forces outdoors**

Key Stage 3 **Investigating light outdoors**

Key Stage 3 **Science Animal Adaptations**

Key Stage 3 **Science Habitat Studies**

Key Stage 3 **Science Food for Thought**

Key Stage 3 **Geography Rivers: A fieldwork approach**

Key Stage 3 **Geography Can the Earth Cope?**

Key Stage 4 and A-Level Please contact us to discuss opportunities for Key Stage 4 and A-Level activities. We will be happy to deliver sessions at a nature reserve or in your school grounds) for these groups which will meet your needs and requirements and complement work being done in school.

Forest Schools 2855534 www.forestschools.com
Sarah Blackwell or Coralie Hopwood,
Archimedes Training,
Sheffield Countryside Centre, Wood Lane Farm, Stannington

www.archimedes-training.co.uk

Forest Schools is a powerful innovative educational approach to outdoor play and learning. The philosophy of Forest Schools is to encourage and inspire individuals of any age through positive experiences and participation in engaging and motivating achievable tasks and activities in a woodland environment, helping to develop personal, social and emotional skills: Independence, Self-discovery, Confidence, Communication skills, Raised self-esteem. These link directly to the **'Every Child Matters'** outcomes. Sheffield based Archimedes is a national leader in the development of Forest Schools.

A standard programme has been developed consisting of 12 sessions spread over the term. The sessions will be alternately delivered by the Forest School Leader and the Class Teacher. They will be designed to fit the curriculum requirements of the group and to complement the classroom learning.

All of the activities delivered are geared towards raising the levels of self-esteem and self-confidence in each child. This in turn will have a positive effect on their classroom development and peer relationships. Children who struggle in the traditional classroom setting will thrive in a positive outdoor learning environment and be able to demonstrate their creativity and true potential. It may also increase a willingness to engage in the classroom, especially when lessons are linked to outdoor activities. Other packages of support, out-of-school and holiday projects and school based activities can be organised to suit the requirements of individual schools.

F FARMS & GARDENS



Heeley City Farm and Heeley Millennium Park 258 0482 www.heeleyfarm.org.uk
Richards Road S2 3DT

Urban Farm with fields, market garden, herb garden, conservation and wildflower areas. The site is powered by a wind turbine and there are demonstrations of solar panels. in the heart of Sheffield. Open every day from 9.30 am to 5.00 pm (4.30 pm in the winter). **Admission is FREE!**

The Farm Café serves healthy, farm-cooked meals using our own produce and has an outside catering service. The region's only Peat Free Garden Centre is here with quality plants at sensible prices.

School Visits

Schools use the farm as an outdoor classroom to study an increasingly wide range of subjects: eg. Plants and Animals - growth, change, reproduction, development and adaptation. The Environment - wildlife in the city, recycling and composting. Geography - the changing local environment, land use and development.

Visits can be linked to the new **Millennium Park** with great views down the Sheaf Valley and well maintained recreational facilities.

Educational Resources

A number of Resource Sheets are produced to help busy teachers with some of the topical subjects relevant to a visit to the farm or for school based study. Send a large s.a.e. for copies. School Visits to Heeley, City Farm Compost and the National Curriculum, Environmental Games, Grants for Schools, Nettles as a teaching resource, The World Cake classroom exercise

Farm Fact Sheets

Find information on a wide range of farming and environmental subjects with our expanding range of Farm Fact Sheets. Available from the farm for a donation of 10 pence or send an s.a.e. with your donation. An Introduction to Heeley City Farm, Making Compost at Home, The Heeley City Farm Sundial (a cut and make model) ,Using Heeley City Farm Café for meetings, *E. coli* 0157 and City Farms, Volunteering at Heeley City Farm ,Hedgehog Friendly Gardening.

Sheffield Botanical Gardens, 267 6496 www.sbg.org.uk
Clarkehouse Road.

The new self-guided trail with cryptic artistic clues takes children on a discovery tour of the gardens. Quite easy and great fun! No booking required.

**Cannon Hall Farm 01226 790427 www.cannonhallfarm.co.uk
Cawthorne, Barnsley**

Top regional attraction set behind Cannon Hall Museum in extensive country park, 5 miles west of Barnsley. 1 hour curriculum linked tour. Huge range of animals including llamas, wallabies and small pets. Adventure playground, indoor picnic facilities. Parties of 20 + £2.75 including guided tour and readmission on day. Booking essential.

Wigfield Farm, 01226 733702 <http://wigfield.barnsley.ac.uk>

Julie Ridgeway, Worsbrough Dale,

Working farm with rare breeds and classroom facilities within Worsbrough Country Park.

Full details of visits, courses and booking forms etc are available on the website

Group bookings including an escorted guided tour are available at a moderate charge. However, should you decide to embark on a more educationally focussed visit, Wigfield Farm can provide a wide range of facilities and resources for use by schools in relation to the Key Stages of the National Curriculum.

The farm is adjacent to Worsbrough Country Park and provides an ideal situation for field work. Support and assistance can be provided by experienced farm or academic staff to make your visit all the more worthwhile. The farm offers a purpose built laboratory facility designed for environmental and rural studies activities, an Information Technology suite and normal classroom facilities complete with a wide range of teaching aids. Purpose designed learning materials are also available at a moderate cost.

Graves Park Animal Centre www.gravespark.fsnet.co.uk

Sheffield Parks & Countryside Dept. 258 2452 or 2500 500

Graves Park Animal Farm provides a home to some of the rarest breeds of farm animals in the country. The children's farmyard offers an opportunity to view a range of small and young animals at close hand. There are handling enclosures, seats and tables, a classroom, plus toilet and hand washing facilities. School parties, informal visitors, families and other groups are made welcome at the farm 364 days of the year. Admission free. Booking form on website.

COUNTRY PARKS



Rotherham Countryside Ranger Service

The Rangers are available to lead activities at the three country parks, advise and deliver environmental activities in school and loan equipment.

Rother Valley Country Park, 01709 247 1452

As well as the familiar watersports facilities, the ranger team at Rother Valley can offer educational sessions on a wide range of themes. The site now very attractive and mature. There is a reserve which is ideal for bird watching.

Thrybergh Country Park 01709 850 353

Ulley Country Park 01709 365 332

Urban Park Rangers based at

Clifton Park 01709 836844 Coronation Park, Maltby 01709 811109 Rosehill Park, Rawmarsh 01709 524111

Worsbrough Country Park 01226 774527.

Richard Moss, Barnsley MBC.

Working water-powered corn mill, large wetland area, ancient woodlands, river and classrooms.

Good path round reservoir to watch interesting range of wetland birds.

Guided tours of the mill according to age group £2.20 per head.

Half day ranger led curriculum linked activities include **Pond Dipping, Habitat Study Workshops and Earth**

Walks. These can all be adapted to the needs of different ages and stages.

£2.00 per head, minimum 15 children.

**Potteric Carr Reserve www.potteric-carr.org.uk/
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust**

This is a huge wetland and woodland site with many hides overlooking open water.

Currently undergoing development.

Peak District National Park Centre for Environmental Learning 01433 620373

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

Losehill Hall, Castleton, Hope Valley, S33 8WB

Losehill Hall, the Peak District National Park Authority's Centre for Environmental Learning has been offering environmental education activities for many years. Programmes range from hour long talks and activities to week-long residentials at any Peak District Youth Hostel. Programmes are available for Key Stage 1 up to graduate level. Consult the website for full details of all these courses, details of prices and booking arrangements. All of our programmes are assessed on a regular basis to ensure they meet the requirements of the National Curriculum with a particular emphasis on Geography, Science, Art and History. Most of our programmes can be tailored to suit children with learning difficulties.

Key stage 1 activities include TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC (4 HOURS) and INFANT EXPLORERS (HALF DAY)

The children are invited to adopt a creature that lives in and around the river bank in order to become explorers for the day. These activities encourage investigation and sensory stimulation in a fun and enjoyable way by working in role as water voles, great diving beetles, freshwater shrimps and herons.

There is a huge variety of Key Stage 2 programmes available as short or longer programmes based at several of the Youth Hostels.

ART IN THE PARK (STANDARD DAY)

This full day is an artistic adventure which explores environmental issues, shared concerns and individual responsibility.

EARTHKEEPERS™ (2 DAY PACKAGE Available from YHA Ravenstor only)

Earthkeepers is a two day residential programme for 9-12 year olds that is continued at home and in school.

GUARDIANS OF THE FUTURE (F.A.R.) (STANDARD DAY)

This programme focuses on ancient and recent changes in the landscape.

EARTH CARETAKERS™ (STANDARD DAY Available from several Youth Hostels)

This programme begins and finishes at school and focuses on energy flow, food chains and our use of energy and materials.

Activities include 'Throwaway Planet', an Earthwalk™, Munchline Monitors™, Microtrails and Magic Spots™.

UP HILL AND DOWN DALE, (STANDARD OR HALF DAY)

The children meet the 'Old Man for the Moors' and are challenged to unravel the mystery of the rocks and landscape from high up on the gritstone moorland to way down in a limestone dale.

A RIVER'S TALE (STANDARD OR HALF DAY)

Available from a number of different sites across the Peak District National Park, this programme is composed of two elements: How rivers affect the landscape and Living things in the water environment.

LANDSCAPE DETECTIVES (STANDARD DAY) – KEY STAGE 2 and 3

This programme investigates the locality of Castleton in the Hope Valley and explores the changes that have occurred there as a result of the relationship between people and geology.

PEOPLE PLACE AND TIME (STANDARD DAY)

This programme is a journey from Neolithic times to the present day. It describes how national events shaped history and the legacy that this left on the landscape of the Hope Valley.

'ALL IN A SPIN' Litton Mill Study Centre (HALF DAY Available from YHA Ravenstor)

The children investigate clues to unravel the history of Litton Mill, an eighteenth century cotton spinning mill.

Shorter activities that can be combined into a programme include- ENVIRONMENTAL ART, EARTHWALK™, FARM VISIT, RIVER DIPPING, THE PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK TALK – 'HATS ROLE PLAY', CONNECTOR INSPECTOR™, MUNCHLINE MONITORS™, FOOD FACTORIES, GEOLOGY TIME TRAIL.

Secondary study units investigate a wide range of issues developed around aspects of GCSE, GNVQ, and A-level (AVCE, AS and A2 levels). Many of our fieldwork techniques are suitable for students undertaking both individual and group investigations.

Our experienced leaders are able to adapt a unit to your specific syllabus requirements if notified in advance.

There is a huge range of units available that can meet all your requirements in the area of Environmental Science.

Consult the very full details on the website for details.

Yorkshire Sculpture Park 01924 832631 www.ysp.co.uk

West Bretton, Wakefield, WF4 4LG,

Yorkshire Sculpture Park is an extraordinary place that sets out to challenge, inspire, inform and delight. Within 500 acres of 18th century parkland, it is an international centre for modern and contemporary art, experienced by thousands of visitors each year, including students and members of the public of all ages and abilities who are engaged in the YSP education and community programme. Using our outdoor workshop spaces we provide an exciting programme which includes public sculpture workshops, practical hands-on sculpture courses, guided tours and talks, lectures, outreach projects and school visits. Last year over 40,000 people were engaged in education work at YSP. YSP is ideal for teaching and learning about sculpture and a wide range of subjects at all Key Stages of the National Curriculum and beyond.

YSP offers stimulation, challenges, opportunities and visits that are subject specific, or cross-curricular, realising many requirements of the National Curriculum. Sculpture is presented in an ever changing setting where students may touch, feel and explore works of art, using their senses, imagination and intellect.

HERITAGE



Local Properties of **The National Trust** www.nationaltrust.org.uk

The Workhouse, Southwell 01636 817250

Upton Road, Southwell, Nottinghamshire NG25 0PT

Subjects Art and Crafts, Dance and Drama, ER (Education Room), Education Staff, English, History, PSHCE Description
Workhouses are the most famous examples of attempts to regulate or care for the poor in Britain. The Workhouse at Southwell is a formidable 19th century brick institution which was built in 1824 and served as a prototype for the workhouses commissioned under the New Poor Act of 1834. This is the least altered workhouse structure in existence today and the regime of segregation, work and supervision is clearly portrayed in both the architecture and the stories of the people who lived and worked here. Consideration is also given to how things have changed today for the poor in Britain.

Clumber Park 01909 476592 01909 544918 (Learning)

The Estate Office, Clumber Park, Worksop, Nottinghamshire S80 3AZ

Subjects ER (Education Room), Education Staff, GNVQ, Geography, History, Science, Teachers Resource Book
1,538ha of parkland with double lime avenue; fine Gothic Revival chapel, built 1886-9 for 7th Duke of Newcastle; house demolished 1938; stable block with restaurant, shop, Information and Warden Centre; classical bridge, temples, lawned Lincoln Terrace and pleasure grounds; Victorian apiary, fig house, kitchen garden and vineries with old tools exhibition; conservation centre.

Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal 01765 643197 (Group bookings) 01765 643167 (learning)

Ripon, North Yorkshire HG4 3DY

Subjects Art and Crafts, Children's Guide, English, Environ Educ, ESD, Nat Hist, Ecology, Geography, History, Maths, Science

Cistercian abbey on the banks of the River Skell, founded in 1132 and the largest monastic ruin in Britain; the ruins provide the dramatic focal point of the eighteenth-century landscape garden at Studley Royal; temples, follies, vistas, deer-park; small museum; St Mary's Church, built by William Burges 1871-8. Interactive exhibition. Fountains Mill is one of the finest surviving monastic watermills in Britain: life-size, reconstructed, monastic mill machinery; mill pond; nineteenth-century waterwheel for saw-milling; turbine, one of the earliest to be installed in Britain, generated electricity for a dairy. Grind your own corn; see how the restored turbine lights the mill today; find out about the monks' working lives; seek out the rat trail and piece together the story it tells of the history of the mill through the ages.

Hardwick Hall 01246 858411 (Group/Education visits)

Doe Lea, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S44 5QJ

Subjects Art and Crafts, English, Environ Educ, ESD, Nat Hist, Ecology, Geography, History, Science

Built by Bess of Hardwick in the 1590s and relatively unchanged since; fine collection of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century furniture, portraits and textiles. Site also includes Hardwick Old Hall (English Heritage), the ruin of an Elizabethan house, Stainsby Mill, a water-powered mill with thirteenth-century origins, and extensive parkland.

Mr Straw's House 01909 482380

7 Blyth Grove, Worksop, Nottinghamshire S81 0JG

Subjects Art and Crafts, English, History, Teachers Resource Book

A semi-detached house built at the turn of the century belonging to Mr Straw and his brother; a time capsule of provincial life in the 1920s; 1930's interior with 1920's wallpaper and furnishings.





Quarry Bank Mill and Styal Estate 01625 415199 (Warden) 01625 445888 (Learning)

Styal, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 4LA

Subjects ER (Education Room), History, Maths, Science Description

Georgian cotton mill restored as working museum of the cotton industry with giant water-wheel; two steam engines in action. Demonstrations of weaving and spinning; galleries illustrating the millworkers' world, textile processes and the Greggs as pioneers of the factory system; restored Apprentice House with hands on visitor participation. Styal Country Estate with environmental study sessions. Semi-natural woodland along the River Bollin; farmland incorporated.

Nostell Priory 01924 866830 (Group booking) 01924 866833 (Learning)

Doncaster Road, Nostell, nr Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF4 1QE

Subjects Art and Crafts, Children's Guide, ER (Education Room), Environ Educ, ESD, Nat Hist, Ecology, History, Science, Teachers Resource Book Description

Eighteenth-century architectural masterpiece by James Paine built on the site of a medieval priory; state rooms with interiors by Robert Adam; fine collection of Chippendale furniture, designed specially for the house by the great cabinetmaker who was once an apprentice on the estate; outstanding art collection with works by Pieter Breughel the Younger and Angelica Kauffmann; portrait of Sir Thomas More and his family, after Holbein; eighteenth-century doll's house, complete with original fittings and Chippendale furniture; lakeside walks; exhibition of conservation techniques used during restoration of the house.

Local English Heritage Sites 01246 857436 www.english-heritage.org.uk

Head of Visitor Operations East Territory North

We welcome educational groups free of charge to over 400 of the country's most magnificent historic properties. Take your pupils and students on a free educational group visit and you'll make their learning more enjoyable, deepen their understanding - and bring fresh inspiration to your own teaching of history and right across the curriculum.

Making the most of your visit

We have a huge range of support materials to help you plan successful site visits. With your confirmation of booking you will receive either a free illustrated teacher's booklet (available for most of our larger sites) or a free A4 information sheet. Many of these are now available as downloads. For the library of information currently available see the website.

Free familiarisation visits

School Visit We are pleased to offer a new prebookable service. If you would like to make a visit to reconnoitre one of our sites with a view to returning at a future date with an educational group, we can issue you with a permit for free entry. By prebooking, our site staff will be able to show you any facilities and resources for educational groups available on the site. Simply contact the relevant booking office with a choice of dates, then complete a Free Educational Booking Form giving your work contact details and return it to the booking office.

On-site resources

At some sites we have developed special facilities and resources for visiting educational groups. The regional office will advise whether any are available at the property you wish to visit and if so you may book their use as part of your main visit. These may include:

- activity boxes and storyboxes
- handling collections
- construction resources
- sets of laminated artists' impressions
- Education Centres with models or child-size costumes
- Discovery Centres with interactive displays
- Group bases that can be used as simple briefing rooms or wet weather shelters.

If you book the use of a facility, further information will be sent to you to help you plan your activities ahead.

Brodsworth Hall and Gardens - South Yorkshire 01302 722598

Charles Sabine Augustus Thellusson inherited the Brodsworth estate in 1859 and decided to commission a new mansion to replace the old 18th-century house. Designed in the Italianate style and decorated and furnished in the opulent fashion of the 1860s, it retains much of its original scheme to this day, making it one of England's most complete surviving Victorian country houses.

Bolsover Castle - Derbyshire 01246 822844,

'By an unlikely miracle,' wrote the historian and champion of the Castle, Mark Girouard, 'the keep at Bolsover has survived into this century as an almost untouched expression in stone of the lost world of Elizabethan chivalry and romance.'

Peveril Castle - Derbyshire 01433 620613

The tower of this Norman stronghold still stands to its original height. This castle, perched high above the pretty village of Castleton, offers breathtaking views of the Peak District. Founded soon after the Norman Conquest of 1066

Arbor Low Stone Circle and Gib Hill Barrow - Derbyshire

A fine Neolithic monument comprising a recumbent circle of white limestone slabs, surrounded by a large ditch and bank.

Wingfield Manor - Derbyshire 01773 832060

A huge, ruined country mansion, Wingfield Manor was built in 1440 by Ralph, Lord Cromwell, Treasurer of England. Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned here in 1569, 1584 and 1585. Unoccupied since the 1770s.

Conisbrough Castle - South Yorkshire 01709 863329

The white, cylindrical keep of this 12th-century castle is a spectacular structure. Made of magnesian limestone, it is the only example of its kind in England. Recently restored, with two new floors and a roof, it is a fine example of medieval architecture.

Roche Abbey - South Yorkshire 01709 812739

Founded in 1147, the fine early Gothic transepts of this Cistercian monastery in South Yorkshire still survive to their original height. In the 18th century, Lancelot 'Capability' Brown transformed an already beautiful valley into a truly enchanting site.

Monk Bretton Priory - South Yorkshire

The sandstone ruins of a Cluniac monastery founded in 1153, plus the remains of the 14th-century gatehouse.

**Haddon Hall 01629 812855 www.haddonhall.co.uk
Bakewell Derbyshire DE45 1LA**

Haddon Hall is a fortified medieval manor house dating from the 12th Century, and is the home of Lord and Lady Edward Manners whose family have owned it since 1567.

The house is open to visitors from April to October, with a number of special events being staged throughout the season. School parties and groups are very welcome. Further details can be found within the website.

Guided Tour: Haddon Hall is brought to life by our guides. Children are soon enthralled with the history of the house and the colourful characters connected with it. Tours are adapted to suit different ages, abilities and interests. Parties are divided into groups of about 20 and will be taken on a tour of the house and chapel which lasts for about 1 hour.

Arranging your visit: Please complete the on-line booking enquiry form. The Education Department will then contact you to advise whether your preferred date is available or if not, suitable alternatives.

Resource Pack: A Schools Resource Pack is now available at a cost of £6.00 (plus Postage). Please contact the Education Department at Haddon Hall if you would like to obtain a copy.

Costume Room: A costume room can be booked where the guide will give a talk illustrated with costumes. Your tour will last approximately half an hour longer. The room will seat about 20 children, and is only suitable for children between the ages of 7 and 11. We regret that we are unable to re-admit your party into the house, courtyard or garden once your tour has finished.

Teachers Familiarisation visit: We strongly recommend that teachers visit Haddon Hall prior to the schools visit. We will send you a voucher with your letter of confirmation, that admits up to two teachers to the Hall free of charge.

Opening times for schools: 1st April- 31st October 2004, Monday to Friday: 9.15am - 4.00pm.

School Group Rate: £3.25 per child (One adult free with every 10 children) Extra Adults: £6.25 Costume Room: £15.00 per group of 20.

Sheffield's Traditional Heritage Museum 222 6296 www.shef.ac.uk/natcect/museum/

**Ecclesall Road,
Sheffield S11 8PR,**

(The centre is owned by Sheffield University and run by volunteers)

The Museum has proved to be a popular site for visiting schools. It features fascinating reconstructions of original workshops and shops from Sheffield's past. The museum does have a schools co-ordinator, and teaching packs which it makes available to those teachers who wish to bring school parties. The museum is usually open on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Sessions run between 10 a.m. and 12.30 p.m., and 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m.

A pre-visit viewing of the museum by all teachers is essential. Tel: 0114- 2220195.

School visits cost £1 per child (no charge for adults).

Kelham Island Museum 0114 2722106 www.simt.co.uk
Alma Street (off Corporation Street)
Sheffield S3 8RY

Teachers are welcome to make planning visits to our sites free of charge and discuss activities. Learning Visits allow you to use our sites and resources for a variety of themes or topics at any level of the curriculum, and to tailor your visit to the group's needs. Our Education and Access Officers can provide you with a variety of resources and support. Factsheets, trails, worksheets and activities are available prior to the visit. Bring your visit alive using one of our costumed Freelance Educators. Choose one of our themed sessions or mix and match the sessions for an interdisciplinary approach. The sessions can be booked for class groups and cover History, Science, Technology, Environment, Geography and English. Many of these sessions are closely linked to National Curriculum QCA units. They are aimed at Key Stages 1 or 2, but can be adapted to meet your needs. Sessions last from 45 minutes to 2 hours, depending on the topic and your visit.

Price Guide: Site Admission £1.50 per head (Sheffield LA £1.00) + £37.50 educator fee per session.

History

Victorian Towns and Work Find out about Sheffield steelworkers using industrial artefacts

Victorian Children Use artefacts and role play to discover what a child's working life was like in 1851

Victorian Sheffield and Steel Discover the changes in steel production and how it changed Sheffield

The Sheffield Flood Learn about the disaster and look at the role of water

Rich and Poor Homes Compare and contrast real Victorian houses.

Playtime and Toys Examine and discover Victorian toys, how they've changed and the materials used and the games they played.

Victorian Home, Work and Play Experience life as a Victorian working class child and visit our back to back' house.

Geography and Environment

Barnaby Bear's Museum Visit Find where Barnaby has been! (Can also be self guided)

Rivers: The Don from Source to Sea Investigate the Don and how the river affects the island

Habitats Explore the riverside environment and look at wildlife specimens

Mini Beasts and Pond Dipping Collect, view and identify animals and plants. Look at food chains and adaptation

Science and Technology

Materials Investigate artefacts from the past. What are they made from?

Explore crucible steel Machines Investigate machines from the past. How do they work and with what power

Wheels Examine the forces and movement of, how they change direction and speed using gears

Mechanisms and Forces Investigate pushes, pulls, gears, pulleys and how they help machines to work

Electricity How has electricity changed our lives? Experiment with machines old and new

Forces and Energy Build and test a water wheel. Tour the site and discover its energy and forces

New Activity Days, - A full day of activities for 2 class groups.

Fantastic Forces-Wheels and Machines - Victorian Toys and Homes-Earth and Beyond -

Florence Nightingale

4.75 per child (£4.25 Sheffield LA)

Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet 0114 2367731

Abbeydale Road South, Sheffield S7 2QW

We offer a range of activities and resources at our sites for schools and educational groups and for our general visitors. The museums and collections provide exciting opportunities to learn about history, science, technology, maths, geography, the environment and English.

The Works Gallery

The hands on interactive gallery where children can try to be steelmakers and discover materials involved in steel and scythe manufacture.

Washday Activities Groups can use all the old fashioned equipment in the courtyard to wash the clothes. Children get the chance to use a dolly, posser, scrubbing board and mangle.

Victorian Costume and Toys Children can dress in mop caps, pinnies, steel makers' aprons and waist coats. They can also look at a range of rich children's and adult costume. They can play with a range of traditional children's games and toys including cup and ball, five stones, swing toys and bridge board.

Shepherd Wheel

Whiteley Woods, Porter Valley, Sheffield

To arrange visits contact: Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet

Shepherd Wheel is a water powered grinding workshop located in quiet and green surroundings on the River Porter.

The site is the earliest industrial building on this stretch of water, with records going back to the sixteenth century.

The grinding hull powered by a waterwheel could once house up to ten men grinding blades at the same time. The site is a Grade II listed building and a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Weston Park Museum, Millennium Galleries and Winter Gardens 0114 278 2655
www.sheffieldgalleries.co.uk

Education team, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2TP

Our experienced education team provide education resources and activities for a range of ages and curriculum areas. Written by teachers for teachers, our education resources provide fascinating, curriculum-linked learning opportunities. The new museum spaces, displays and education resources at the refurbished Weston Park Museum have been designed to support both your pupils learning needs *and* your teaching needs with 3 activity rooms providing perfect learning spaces for hands-on teaching sessions, specially trained staff to support your visit and effective teaching resources created with the help of local teachers. They will include workshops and museum trails, all available online for advance preparation of visits.

An indoor picnic space for groups bringing packed lunches

Free staff led introductions to the exhibitions tailored to the needs of your pupils

Bishops' House 0114 278 2655

Meersbrook Park

Contact Sue Graves, Education Administrative Assistant.

Bishops' House is the best preserved timber-framed house in Sheffield. It was built around 1500 and is tucked away at the top of Meersbrook Park. Bishops' House typifies the development of the smaller English domestic house in the 16th and 17th centuries. Inside, the house retains many of its original features and looks just as it would have done in the 17th century, giving a tantalising flavour of Stuart England. The Great Parlour is restored as a typical dining room and the first floor chamber contains the original bedroom furniture and fittings listed in a 17th century inventory of contents. We have produced resources to support workshops and self-guided sessions at Bishops' House for Key Stage two pupils. All sessions support the History programme of study and units 8 and 18 of the QCA Scheme of Work:

- What were the differences between the lives of rich and poor people in Tudor times?
- How are our toys different from those in the past? - What were homes like a long time ago?

Sheffield Manor Lodge 276 2828 www.sheffieldmanorlodge.org

Education officer- Anna Jones, 115 Manor Lane, Sheffield, S2 1UH

Manor Lodge is one of Sheffield's most significant heritage sites. In Tudor times it was one of the grandest manor houses in the land. It was visited by Cardinal Wolsey and was prison to Mary Queen of Scots for many of her 14 years in Sheffield. In later centuries it became a thriving centre for agriculture, craft and industry.

We have a range of equipment and resources to support these sessions and a free resource pack is available to any school booking a session. Our sessions aim to give Key Stage 2 pupils an understanding of Tudor life through a varied approach using art, history, geography, English and citizenship. Sessions cost £60 and last for approx. half a day. Each session is design for one class to undertake at a time i.e. around 30 pupils.

Topics presently available are- Art at the Lodge, Art in Tudor Aristocracy, Sheffield & Manor Lodge Today, Tudor Geography, Terrible Tudor History, Tudor Toys (KSI), Poor and sick in Tudor times, Tudor Court.

Wortley Top Forge Industrial Museum. www.topforge.co.uk 0114 2887576

Party Bookings - Phone Mr G Parkinson - 0114 2817991

A short distance from the A629 (Sheffield to Huddersfield Road) between the villages of Wortley and Thurgoland Wortley Top Forge is a Water Powered Iron Forge is a 17th Century Iron Forge, whose history can be traced back to 1640. It is acknowledged as being the oldest surviving Heavy Iron Forge in the World. Following the final abandonment of the site in 1929, various bodies have been involved in securing the site which now forms the heart of an Industrial Museum. Exhibits at Top Forge include the original water wheels and water powered drop hammers within the original Forge building that is progressively being restored to 1900s condition. All three Water Wheels can be run subject to conditions. Adjoining buildings house a 1920s Machine Shop, displays of medium sized and small stationary steam engines and displays of old machine and hand tools

Sundays - February to November - 11 a.m. to 5 p.m (dusk when earlier). Other times by appointment

Adults £3.00, Children 50p & O.A.P.s £2.00

Other Features- Picnic Area, Walks in surrounding Countryside, Toilets, Limited Light Refreshments.

Miniature Railway - Operates most Open Days - from 2 p.m.



This is a selected list of a few of the many websites that offer useful information on aspects of environmental studies.

The 'star ratings' (out of 5) are subjective and simply reflect how valuable I think they are.

www.wildlifetrusts.org.uk****

This huge site is a very useful directory of hundreds of sites which have an environmental focus.

www.learningalive.co.uk*****

An Internet service for use by teachers and pupils, full of education resources and links.

www.enchantedlearning.com*****

A FANTASTIC site with hundreds of ready made resource sheets on a wide range of subjects. Worth subscribing to.

www.foresteducation.org.uk****

The Forest Education Initiative's official web site includes information on educational resources and links to the curriculum.

ww.teachernet.gov.uk/growingschools***

This is the site for the new DfES 'Growing Schools' initiative. The section on learning materials and on places to visit are useful.

www.globe.org.uk****

An international programme for schools, encouraging pupils to measure aspects of their local environment and report their results over the Internet.

www.leaf-international.org***

This is a huge and invaluable resource with stacks of good classroom resources, worksheets and ideas for all levels. Look especially at the **MYTHS** section.

Woodland Trust—www.treeforall.org.uk www.wildaboutwoods.org.uk

www.naturedetectives.org.uk www.phenology.org.uk

These are the outstanding new teachers resource sites. There is much valuable and useful downloadable material here as well as a very attractive interactive exploration of a wood.

www.coillte.ie****

This is an Irish site which has a whole bank of outstanding resources on woodlands for all levels. It includes material on global warming, greenhouse effect and conservation issues.

www.globalfootprints.org***

This includes a very useful checklist which enables you to work out the 'global Footprint' of your school. It has good material and resources on global citizenship.

www.bestfootforward.com*****

Some excellent publications on sustainability etc. See 'Global Steps' a card game and activity.

www.naturenet.net***

A very comprehensive site which contains a wealth of information about countryside management and nature conservation.

www.naturegrid.org.uk****

This is a quite outstanding site, of Canterbury Environmental Education Centre, very user friendly and extremely attractive. Do not miss the woodland, pond and grassland explorer sections.

www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/kids*****

University of Illinois extension services. An outstanding variety imaginative ideas and presentations to interest children eg, A Walk in the Woods, Lets talk About Insects and The Great Plant Escape.

www.englishnature.org.uk****

This huge site is an absolutely invaluable resource on all aspects of the environment.

www.environment-agency.gov.uk****

This is another enormous site that has some really interesting downloadable resources, interactives and animated quizzes on aspects of the environment.

www.wwflearning.co.uk****

This is the learning resource section of the WWF site and has some extremely interesting and challenging material for all key stages.

www.rspb.org.uk****

This has a wide variety of very usable resources for all key stages on all aspects of wildlife, not just birds.

www.bornfree.org.uk***

This is a very child-friendly site with various games and puzzles. The most valuable section, however, is the excellent guidance on creating a wildlife garden.