



## About the Pack

Thank you for your interest in bringing your group to visit Royal Victoria Country Park. This pack is designed to help you find out more about what the park has to offer and help you with the preparation for your visit should you decide to come and visit us. It contains details on the domestic arrangements; arrival and departure, location of toilets, picnic areas as well as background information on the Park. If you are planning a self-guided visit and require further specific information please contact the Park's Education Ranger.



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# 1. Park Introduction

Royal Victoria Country Park is the perfect place to bring learning to life. This unique site right on the coast overlooking Southampton Water offers something for everyone with wonderful wildlife, rich heritage and a great range of park facilities.

There are extensive areas of shingle shoreline, parkland and mature woodland as well as wildflower areas and a community orchard which together provide a valuable outdoor learning resource for schools and other groups. In addition, we have Acorns Education Facility that can be hired out to groups for indoor learning.

The site also has plenty of historical interest with the remains of a huge Victorian hospital on site which was home to Britain's first purpose built military hospital of the day, opened in 1863 and demolished in 1966. The iconic chapel building is currently being refurbished but will re-open in 2018.

## 2. Essential Information

The following information will help you get the best from your visit. If you need any further information then please do contact us.

**Pre - Visits** A pre- visit is recommended. During the pre- visit, our staff will help you with the planning of your visit

**First Aid** If you require medical assistance or in case of an accident please report to reception or the nearest member of staff. **If you call for an ambulance directly please let the reception know.**

**Safety** Please follow the guidelines set out by your local Education Authority with regards to taking groups on trips and carrying out fieldwork. The teacher/group leader is responsible for the discipline and overall control of the group at all times, and to ensure that all helpers are briefed on their responsibilities.

**Insurance** Hampshire County council has a public liability insurance of £5,000,000. A copy of the certificate is available on request.

**Arrival procedure for guided activities** On arrival the teacher/group leader will be met in Tall Pines Car Park.

**Toilets** Ladies, gents and disabled toilets are situated next to the Café.

**Cancellations** A cancellation fee of £50 will be charged.

**Clothing** Please ensure that all pupils and adults are briefed prior to the visit regarding appropriate clothing. We recommend that stout footwear and long trousers are worn throughout the year. In addition extra warm and waterproof clothes for the winter and a hat and sun cream during the summer months.

**The Visitor Centre Shop** The shop stocks a wide variety of souvenirs, gifts and educational items which will add to your visit.

**Café** The café is situated by the Empire Room at the heart of the Park and offers a wide range of hot and cold drinks, cakes, snacks and light lunches. Groups can be catered for if booked in advance.

**Picnic Areas** You are welcome to eat your lunch on the grassy areas of the park. Please try and ensure minimum packaging .

### 3. Health and Safety

**Machinery and tools** The Park is a place of work and there will be times when machinery may be in operation. It is important that children are supervised by an adult at all times.

**Weils disease** can be contracted from the exposure to water contaminated with the urine of rodents. Children should avoid touching their eyes, ears and mouth, wash their hands and cover open wounds with a waterproof plaster if coming into contact with water.

**Ticks (Lyme disease)** Ticks can be picked up in wooded or grassy areas particularly during the warm summer months. The best way to avoid this is to wear long sleeved tops, trousers and sturdy shoes so that ticks can not **reach the skin. If you pick up a tick please seek medical advice.**

### 4. Guided Sessions

Sessions last for either 2 hours (10am – 12 noon) or all day (10am – 2pm). The sessions are all hands on activities.

Title	Description
<b>Meet the Nightingale Nurse (KS1)</b>	Includes the role of nurses at Royal Victoria Military Hospital through role play, photos and artefacts.
<b>Call to War (KS2/3/4)</b>	A local history study either a 2 hour or full day session in the Chapel and in the park. Sessions include role play, using primary and secondary sources such as artefacts and photos. The hospital covers the period 1856 to the present day and includes famous people such as Wilfred Owen, Florence Nightingale and Queen Victoria.
<b>Seasonal Change with Percy the Park Keeper (KS1)</b>	Looking at seasonal changes throughout the year includes two visits to the park one in autumn and one in spring (price £6 to cover two visits.)
<b>Pond, Shore and Woodland Safari (KS1/2/3/4)</b>	Includes a 2 hour session looking at different habitats and classifying the creatures who live there.
<b>Conflicts Through Poetry (KS2/3/4)</b>	Various aspects of literacy covering most key stages including 'War Song,' 'Private Peaceful' – World War 1 activities and role play, Wilfred Owen (War poet) and 'Dearest Maude' for older students.
<b>Outdoor Adventures (KS2/3/4)</b>	Orienteering - Includes a basic introduction to orienteering, maps and compasses with two levels of orienteering trails.

	Bushcraft – Developing survival techniques with shelter building and firelighting.
<b>Our Changing Locality (KS2/3)</b>	Looking at present and past land use along Southampton Water, the growth of Netley village and a study of Southampton Water.
<b>Outdoor Art (KS1/2/3/4)</b>	Use a variety of different materials including willow and charcoal.

## 5. Prices

<b>Staff led visits</b>	£4.50 per child for 2 hours 10am -12pm £6.50 for the day. 10am- 2pm
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## 6. Booking information

If you would like to bring your school or group to RVCP Country park please fill in the online booking enquiry form on the webpage. We will then be in touch with you to confirm your booking or to suggest an alternative date, and to gather more information.

## 7. Evaluation Form

Once you have completed your visit to RVCP please would you be kind enough to fill in the online evaluation form. This feedback allows us to continually improve the educational offer we provide.

Thank you in advance.

## 8. Map



- 1 The Duck Pond
- 2 Horse Pond Wood
- 3 Sports Pavilion
- 4 The Café, Shop, Park Office and Empire Room
- 5 Orchard
- 6 Pier Head
- 7 Steps
- 8 The Chapel
- 9 Royal Victoria Railway Station
- 10 Bluebell Wood
- 11 Cemetery Wood
- 12 Netley Military Cemetery
- 13 Acorn Room
- P1 Seafront Car Park
- P2 Round Car Park
- P3 Chapel Car Park
- P4 Tall Pines Car Park
- P5 Overflow Car Park
- Caravan Rally Field
- BBQ Areas
- Toilets
- Children's Play Area
- Inclusive Play Area
- Picnic Site
- Dog Bin
- Information
- Café

- Footpath
- Main access road
- Other roads
- Tap (drinking water)
- Gate
- Hamble Rail Trail
- Solent Way (long distance trail)
- Private



Education Pack