



## Educational Visits to the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens: Information for Parents

By working with your child's class throughout the visit, we aim to ensure that your child has the best possible time with us.

### Educational and fun

- We find that children learn more, and enjoy the environment more, when their attention is focused through games and activities.
- All our programmes are set in advance in consultation with your child's teacher. The activities are fun but have clear learning objectives.

### Safe

- We are pleased to say we have very few accidents. Our staff members are trained in the use of our site and a trained first aider is always available. We insist on high ratios of adults to children.
- As we cannot remove all risks, we help children learn to recognise dangers like fungi, berries, water, germs, and uneven terrain.

### Other notes

- **Please dress your children appropriately for the weather.** Some schools ask for children to be in uniform; please check if you are uncertain. In any case, children should come with *stout shoes or wellies*, not sandals. Do send them with *warm socks, sunhats and sun-block and layers of clothing including something to block the wind, rain and cold*. Unless dangerous, we go out in every sort of weather!
- We ask you to help protect children from stings and bites by sending them with *long trousers* or leggings, and check for ticks after the visit. While not that common, if you do find a tick, ask your doctor about Lyme disease.
- The children will be outside for most of the day. Do expect them to return home a little mucky.
- Fresh air makes children hungry. Please send a healthy, filling lunch, plus fruit and extra water. Please do not send them with fizzy or "sports" drinks.
- Children do not need to bring spending money. We will not spend time in the shop.

### Finally

Thank you for supporting your school's efforts to enrich the educational programme through off-site activities. School trips add excitement as well as providing a stimulating environment for learning.

Don't forget to ask your child about their favourite activities here. Your interest will make your child value the visit even more; talking about it will help reinforce learning, too.

If they wish to write us after their visit, we love to display photographs, pictures and letters.