

Services for Children and Young People in Buckinghamshire

Shortenills Centre Brochure 2011-12

Booking arrangements for schools and other organisations to come to Shortenills Centre for a residential visit.
www.buckscc.gov.uk/shortenills



Set within 10 acres of varied woodland, meadows and ponds, Shortenills offers a safe and secure location for pupils to encounter the natural world and engage with the extensive range of sustainable technologies and practices available on site. Your visit is made even more special by being the **only group residential on site on week days or weekends.**

Eco-Centres
Award

- Excellent cross-curricular learning enriches and supports Key Stage 1 – 2 with ‘sustainability’ at the heart of everything we do.
- The content of your residential programme will be tailored to complement and extend the experience and awareness of your learners and provide them with wonderful lifelong memories of their Shortenills experience.
- Specialist equipment to facilitate the variety of learning styles.
- Ample opportunities for ‘Learning outside the Classroom’. (LOtC)

We have provided thousands of primary aged children and many adults with a wide range of rich learning opportunities over the past 60 years. The Shortenills experience encourages all visitors to appreciate the value and fragility of the natural world that nurtures and inspires us. Our programmes will stress understanding of ecological processes, the benefits of sustainable lifestyles and provide a springboard for further work at home and school.



LOtC Quality Badge award

We received our award in 2010 after an inspection by the ‘Council for Learning Outside the Classroom’. The comments received from the inspector included the following:



Shortenills is “a little jewel of a Centre with the surrounding grounds managed to provide a rich diversity of habitats for young people to explore safely.The Centre is the best example I have of an institution putting the ideas of sustainability into practice and ensuring that pupils are both aware and participate in aspects of that practice ... The teaching and learning offered at the centre is effective, efficient and good value for money. It meets the standards required by the LOtC Quality Badge and in many areas is exemplary.”

Many opportunities for learning and first hand experiences

For many pupils a trip to Shortenills is their first trip away from home. The Shortenills experience offers pupils a great adventure in beautiful, safe and secure surroundings. In addition to exciting curricular work their stay here is organised to encourage independence, and help develop better social skills and to extend the pupils' personal development in many ways.

The teaching expertise helps the environment become accessible, and the learning become hands on. Alongside this, the equipment in the classrooms and the teaching materials provide a stimulating resource to complement the grounds. The curricular work may include some of the following:

Earth Champions

Developing positive attitudes to the environment to help pupils make changes in their thinking and in their own lives. Highly participatory and great fun. Includes **'Earthwalks', 'Discovery Parties', 'Throw Away Planet'**, a focus on your **'Environmental Footprint'** and some other important ecological concepts. Lots of good ideas to take back to school where pupils can apply their new knowledge, skills and understanding to become much more eco-friendly.

Eco-Trails

Many groups elect to spend a day on the **'Eco-trail'** where they work on the biofuel boiler, visit the 'rot zone,' do some composting and recycling, have fun with the photo voltaic array and solar powered toys and learn about the importance of encouraging biodiversity. Everyone learns how to be more eco-friendly with ideas to take back to school and at home.

Science

Covering many aspects of the KS1/2 science national curriculum with a special focus on life processes and living things. **Woodland, meadows and 3 ponds on site** provide excellent opportunities for studying habitats, biodiversity, adaptation and life cycles.

Geography

There are many opportunities to develop skills and include a focus on environmental change and sustainable development. The adjacent 50 hectares of **Woodland Trust forest**, the neighbouring livestock **farm**, the local historic **village** and the **Chiltern Open Air Museum** provide a myriad of learning opportunities.

Learning Outside the Classroom

Buckinghamshire County Council is a signatory to the above DCSF manifesto which recommends that 20% of learning should take place outside the classroom. Shortenills can provide plenty of opportunity to contribute in numeracy, literacy, ICT, history, art, outdoor & adventurous activities and sustainable development as well as the subjects featured above.



There are also many opportunities for work in English, Maths, History, ICT, Art and Education for Sustainable Development.

Residential Visits: September 2011 – July 2012

Buckinghamshire County schools term time weeks and prices are detailed below. The prices are for a complete **5 day visit** including all meals and educational activities. Our capacity is up to 50, and 4 additional free places for accompanying adults. For weeks with a * there is a minimum charge for 30 children. For other weeks we welcome requests for **shorter periods of stay** (priced pro-rata), and for smaller groups paying per person. If you wish to **visit at a weekend** with a school or non-school group the price guide for the visit would be around 45% of the price quoted for the previous week, depending on exactly what services were required.

Let us know your needs and we will do our best to provide for you.

Autumn Term 2011

Week	Dates	Price (Bucks)	Price (Non Bucks)
1	7 – 9 Sept (3 days)		
2	12 – 16 Sept	£165	£175
*3	19 – 23 Sept	£175	£185
*4	26 – 30 Sept	£175	£185
*5	3 – 7 Oct	£175	£185
*6	10 – 14 Oct	£175	£185
*7	17 – 21 Oct	£175	£185
Half Term			

Week	Dates	Price (Bucks)	Price (Non Bucks)
*8	31 Oct – 4 Nov	£170	£180
*9	7 – 11 Nov	£170	£180
10	14 – 18 Nov	£150	£160
11	21 – 25 Nov	£150	£160
12	28 Nov – 2 Dec	£135	£135
13	5 – 9 Dec	£120	£120
14	12 – 16 Dec	£120	£120
End of Term			

Spring Term 2012

Week	Dates	Price (Bucks)	Price (Non Bucks)
15	4 – 6 Jan (3 days)	£85	£85
16	9 – 13 Jan	£150	£160
17	16 – 20 Jan	£150	£160
18	23 – 27 Jan	£150	£160
19	30 Jan – 3 Feb	£150	£160
20	6 – 10 Feb	£160	£170
Half Term			

Week	Dates	Price (Bucks)	Price (Non Bucks)
*21	20 – 24 Feb	£170	£180
*22	27 Feb – 2 Mar	£175	£185
*23	5 – 9 Mar	£175	£185
*24	12 – 16 Mar	£175	£185
*25	19 – 23 Mar	£175	£185
*26	26 – 30 Mar	£175	£185
End of Term			

Summer Term 2012

Week	Dates	Price (Bucks)	Price (Non Bucks)
*27	16 – 20 Apr	£185	£195
*28	23 – 27 Apr	£185	£195
*29	30 Apr – 4 May	£185	£195
*30	8 – 11 May (4 days)	£150	£160
31	14 – 18 May	£185	£195
*32	21 – 25 May	£185	£195
*33	28 May – 1 Jun	£185	£195
Half Term			

Week	Dates	Price (Bucks)	Price (Non Bucks)
*34	11 – 15 Jun	£185	£195
*35	18 – 22 Jun	£185	£195
*36	25 – 29 Jun	£185	£195
*37	2 – 6 Jul	£185	£195
*38	9 – 13 Jul	£180	£190
39	16 – 20 Jul	£180	£190
End of Term			

Small School Discounts Initiative

We already have regular bookings from Small Schools (and year groups within a school) who have arranged to partner with another similar school to enable both to enjoy the Shortenills experience as a joint venture. To encourage and reward this endeavour we are pleased to be able to offer a **5% discount per pupil** for joint parties of 35 pupils and over.

Shortenills Residential Visits Application Form 2011-2012

Please return this form by **14th March 2011** in order to ensure your request is included in the initial allocation of bookings.

Please photocopy this application form to request a booking and use two copies if two weeks are required. Shortenills needs to be full all year to maintain its low price for the quality of service on offer so please be as flexible as possible in the weeks you will accept.

School/Organisation Contact Name			
Address & postcode			
Telephone		Email	
Size of group		Year Group	
Weekday booking / weekend booking (delete as applicable)			
Month Preferred (we cannot always meet your request)	1st Choice		Weeks you cannot accept
	2nd Choice		
	3rd Choice		

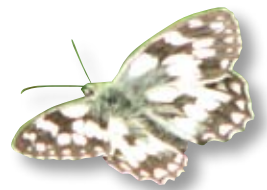
Partner Bookings (if applicable)

I would like this request to be considered as a partnered booking with:

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Booking Procedure and Payment Schedule

- **Booking form, expressing an interest, received from your school**
- **Offer of booking made in writing by Shortenills**
- **School accepts booking in writing, booking confirmed by Shortenills**
- **Deposit is taken by Shortenills – this will be around 10% of full cost**
- **School is contacted by Shortenills to arrange programme planning session at the school or the Centre (this is at least one term ahead)**
- **The term before the visit more detailed information will be sent to the school**
- **An interim payment of a further 10% will taken on an agreed date prior to the visit**
- **Final invoice is issued on completion of the visit**



Cancellation

This is a rare event but should any school need to cancel then it should be made in writing and we would welcome as much notice as possible, so there is every chance of replacing your booking. The deposit is not refundable.

Headteacher's Signature

I have read the booking procedures, and the payment and cancellation policy (above) and I would like to request a booking at Shortenills Centre:

Signature:

Return to:

Shortenills Centre, Nightingales Lane, Chalfont St Giles HP8 4SG

Tel/Fax: 01494 872288

email: shortenills@buckscc.gov.uk

Forms are also available on our web site www.buckscc.gov.uk/shortenills

