

# River Studies

## At the Box Moor Trust



### Pre-Visit Preparation

We will run activities whatever the weather as long as the conditions and the river level have been assessed to be safe. All visitors should therefore be sensibly dressed. They **must wear long wellingtons** as they will be going into the water. Accompanying adults should also wear wellingtons. We do not allow anyone to enter the river in shoes or flip flops. **Long trousers (no shorts) are essential to reduce the risk of ticks from the long grass at this site.** We also advise that they have waterproof coats and headgear and a warm jumper in all but the hottest weather. If it is obviously going to be hot, visitors will need a hat, sun cream and to be well covered. The river studies site is exposed so, in particularly hot weather, we will provide a basic canopy for shade. We advise bringing a change of shoes for any coach journey. There are no toilets at our river studies location. At lunchtime, we use the toilets (including disabled) and hand washing facilities at Gadespring, a five minute walk from the river. For health and safety reasons, it will not be possible for the toilets to be visited during teaching sessions. Please bring plenty of drinks, especially in hot weather, plus a packed lunch if you are here for the day. As we have no facilities for providing hot drinks, you may wish to bring flasks etc. in cold weather. Lunches and snacks may be eaten in the building at Gadespring. As part of our commitment to waste reduction and recycling, there are no disposal facilities for snack or lunchtime waste during this visit at the river site or Gadespring so all waste must be taken back to school or home. Please see 'Waste Free Days at The Box Moor Trust' for how we encourage visitors to bring drinks and snacks etc. in reusable or recyclable containers. Belongings may be left securely at Gadespring during activities. The River Studies course takes place at our Old Fishery site on the River Bulbourne. Our meeting point is at Camelot Rugby Club on Chaulden Lane and coaches may park there for the day. The postcode for the Rugby Club is HP1 2BS. Please see overleaf for directions and a map for this location.

It is important that we are informed in advance of any medical conditions or allergy issues that may be relevant on the day. Any prescribed medicines that are brought should be kept by the adult in charge of that child for the visit. It is essential that any adult carrying an adrenalin auto-injector remains with that child at all times. We ask that visiting staff bring a first aid kit, a mobile phone and a record of the Post Codes/Grid References/GPS Coordinates for Old Fishery and Gadespring in case of emergencies (to be found in our Risk Assessment - see below). You may also wish to bring a camera. We provide all equipment, including clipboards, pencils and worksheets, but ask that the children look after them responsibly.

Our River Studies Teacher's Pack sets out the intended learning outcomes for your visit, plus keywords/concepts that can be discussed before the visit to enhance the learning experience on the day. We recommend that teachers undertake a pre-visit prior to bringing a class. We will give teachers an evaluation form to provide feedback on the visit and will ask the children for feedback after their visit. Post-visit activity sheets that build on some of the activities the class will have undertaken will also be provided.

### Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The Trust must be informed, in advance of your visit, about any special requirements, with the aim of ensuring our facilities and services are as accessible as possible in terms of equality, diversity and inclusion. This will allow us to tailor course content or routes etc. so that all our visitors can share the same experience as far as is possible. On arrival, we ask that the teacher in charge identifies any such children to Trust teaching staff.

### Prior Organisation of the Class

We expect a ratio of adults to pupils of 2:15, with at least 4 accompanying adults who will be split between the two groups. 1:1 support staff should not be included in this ratio. Box Moor Trust staff are not part of this ratio. At least two members of school staff per 30 children are required. Please ensure these school staff members are split between the two groups. Your class will be split into two groups for certain activities during your visit. To help us, please organise the class and accompanying adults into two groups (on paper) beforehand.

## **Responsibilities**

Box Moor Trust staff organise activities for their maximum educational value and will support your class in a supervisory role. The senior teacher from your school will be in charge of the class and be responsible for discipline throughout the day. However, Box Moor Trust staff reserve the right to exclude pupils who display dangerous or disruptive behaviour. School staff will be in sole charge at lunchtime. We will escort you to and from Gadespring at lunchtime. We place a strong emphasis on respecting the environment and keeping the Countryside Code during school visits and ask for teachers' support in this.

## **Health and Safety**

The following documents are available on our website ([www.boxmoortrust.org.uk](http://www.boxmoortrust.org.uk))

- Risk Assessments for all activities
- Emergency Procedures for Schools and Visiting Groups
- Emergency Procedures for Activities Near Water
- Safeguarding Policy for Children and Vulnerable Adults

We also have procedures in place for dealing with lost children. Box Moor Trust staff are first aid trained and carry a first aid kit.

**Please note that, for River Studies, we ask that you read the relevant Risk Assessments and then sign and return the enclosed 'Notice to Teachers' before the course takes place.**

## **Directions to Old Fishery and Camelot Rugby Club**

**From M1:** Exit at Junction 8 and follow the A414 to Hemel Hempstead town centre. At the large roundabout, take the third exit (clockwise) onto the A4146. Go straight on at the traffic lights and then turn right at the roundabout onto London Road (A4251). Pass the railway station on the left. At the roundabout, go right onto Fishery Road, passing the Fishery Inn on the right hand side. At the next roundabout, turn left onto Northridge Way. After a short while, turn left into Chaulden Lane. The entrance to Camelot Rugby Club is on the left. Please do not go down Old Fishery Lane as it is narrow and it is not possible to turn round.

**From M25:** Exit at Junction 20 and follow the A41 towards Hemel Hempstead and Aylesbury. Exit at the second junction signposted for Bourne End, Berkhamsted, Boxmoor. At the top of the slip road, turn right at the roundabout onto London Road (A4251). Continue along, passing the Box Moor Trust Centre on the right. Go straight ahead at the traffic lights and under the railway and road bridges. At the roundabout, turn left onto Fishery Road, passing the Fishery Inn on the right hand side. At the next roundabout, turn left onto Northridge Way. After a short while, turn left into Chaulden Lane. The entrance to Camelot Rugby Club is on the left. Please do not go down Old Fishery Lane as it is narrow and it is not possible to turn round.

**From Aylesbury:** Follow the A41 until the junction signposted for Bourne End, Berkhamsted, Boxmoor. At the top of the slip road, turn left at the roundabout onto London Road (A4251). Pass over the bridge over the A41 and turn left at the roundabout, following London Road. Continue along, passing the Box Moor Trust Centre on the right. Go straight ahead at the traffic lights and under the railway and road bridges. At the roundabout, turn left onto Fishery Road, passing the Fishery Inn on the right hand side. At the next roundabout, turn left onto Northridge Way. After a short while, turn left into Chaulden Lane. The entrance to Camelot Rugby Club is on the left. Please do not go down Old Fishery Lane as it is narrow and it is not possible to turn round.

**[Chaulden Ln - Google Maps](#)**