



Stibbington Centre

for Environmental Education

Information for parents



Introduction

Stibbington Centre is part of **Cambridgeshire Environmental Education Service (CEES)**, which is a service provided for schools by Cambridgeshire County Council. The Centre offers the opportunity for pupils to sample a residential experience for a few days in a friendly, hospitable environment, not far from home. The courses offered at the Centre are designed to support the National Curriculum, with a particular emphasis on Science, Geography and History, together with Education for Sustainable Development.

Location

The Centre is located in the North West corner of Cambridgeshire, beside the A1 near Wansford. It is 10 miles west of Peterborough and 20 miles north of Huntingdon.

Facilities

The Residential Centre includes a classroom, lounge and dining room with kitchens, plus a bedroom wing with 12 separate bedrooms for up to four. There are also cloakrooms, toilets and showers. There is another classroom and a “period” classroom in the separate Day Centre building. The Centre’s grounds include a wildlife garden, rock and fossil collections, imaginatively designed play facilities and even a giant!

Equipment

A huge range of equipment from clipboards to computers, magnifiers to a minibeast mansion is held at Stibbington for use both at the Centre and out in the local environment.

Centre staff

The Centre is staffed by Head Teacher, Rosie Edwards, together with a team of fully qualified and experienced teachers who lead educational activities for visiting groups with the support of the teachers from school. The team also includes highly committed members of staff who provide administrative and domestic support.

Visiting staff

Teachers and their accompanying helpers from school are responsible for their pupils’ welfare throughout the visit and they look after domestic arrangements. During the daytime visiting staff work alongside the Centre’s teachers, both in the classroom and in the outdoor environment. At night time visiting staff bedrooms are adjacent to pupils’ rooms.

Eco Centre, Healthy Centre, Growing Centre

Stibbington Centre has achieved the major national “Eco-Centre” Award in recognition of its introduction of an Eco-Code, designed to reduce the Centre’s impact on the local and global environment. Nationally acknowledged Healthy Centre and Growing Centre projects are also in place.

All residential visitors to the Centre have an opportunity to learn and benefit from these initiatives, which include for example: solar and wind power technologies; waste recycling and composting; wildlife conservation, healthy eating menus, local, sustainably sourced foods, vegetable growing plots and much more. An Eco Pledge made at the end of their stay encourages children to remember what they have learned.

Health and Safety

The Centre has its own comprehensive Health and Safety Policy, which is based on both County Council and National guidelines. No activities undertaken at the Centre fall into the “high risk” category, as designated by the Activity Centres Act. CEES also holds the Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge number R2QB102204. ‘The LOtC Quality Badge means that the holder has passed a robust assessment designed to ensure that they are meeting schools’ learning and risk management needs, no matter what activities they offer.’

For further information about the Quality Badge visit <http://lotcqualitybadge.org.uk/home>

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