

Chichester Harbour Education Centre



for land, for water, for all

Chichester
Harbour
Conservancy

Chichester Harbour

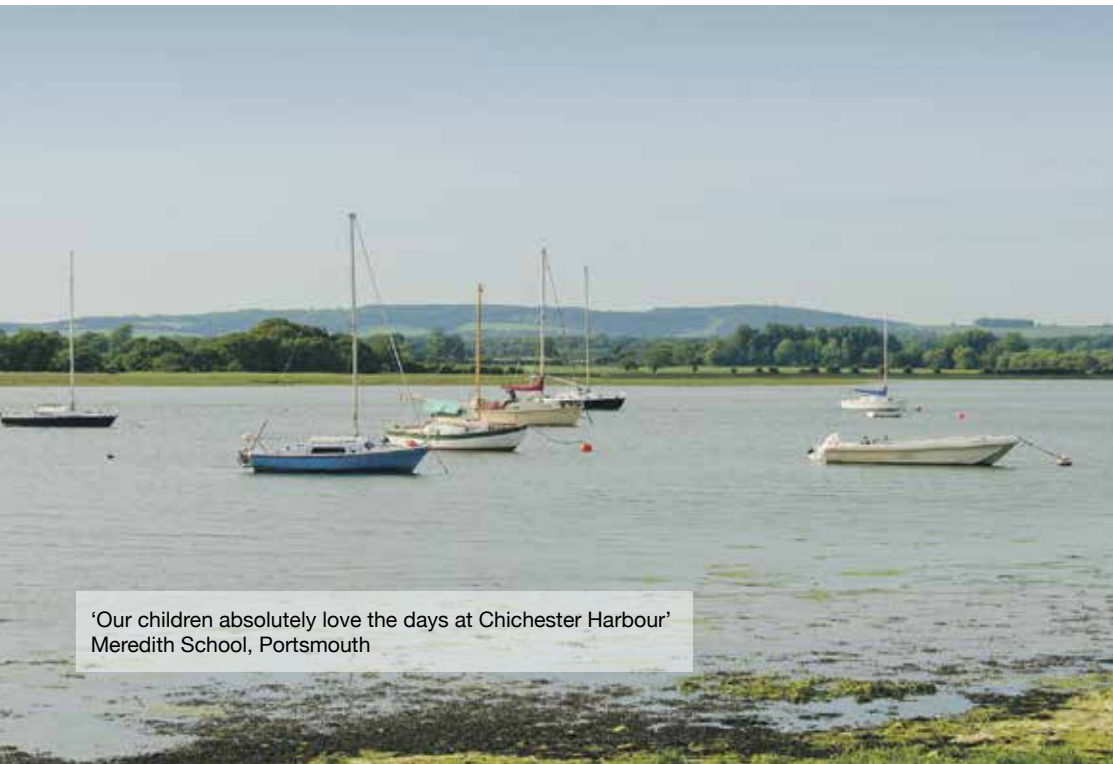
Chichester Harbour is a unique blend of land and sea, combining large open waters with narrow creeks and inlets. It is a beautiful and fascinating environment, with a wealth of learning opportunities.

Chichester Harbour Conservancy was established in 1971 and helps to manage the Harbour for recreation and leisure, as well as protecting and enhancing the landscape and its wildlife.

The Harbour is a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) because it is a nationally important landscape, attracting around 1.5 million visitors a year. There is a delicate balance between the activities of humans and the needs of nature.



'The children are still buzzing from the excitement of the day. Superbly organised and wonderfully enthusiastic staff who kept the children engaged throughout.' Primary Teacher



'Our children absolutely love the days at Chichester Harbour'
Meredith School, Portsmouth

Chichester Harbour Education Service

Chichester Harbour is a superb outdoor classroom for all ages and abilities.

We believe in giving pupils and students the opportunity to explore the natural environment, learning and developing new skills from a Harbour experience.

By helping people to understand its special qualities, we encourage everyone to enjoy the landscape, whilst at the same time, looking after it. Our Education Service is for schools, colleges, universities and community groups.



Chichester Harbour Education Centre

Where to Find Us

Chichester Harbour Education Centre is located at Dell Quay, just south of Chichester. Our unique, well-equipped classroom on the quay has beautiful views of the Harbour and a stunning back drop of the South Downs National Park.



The Education Team

Our Education Officer will help you to book and plan your visit. We have a team of highly qualified teachers and volunteers who are available to guide your group. Our staff have many years of experience in teaching and outdoor learning.



We are also available to give talks or run workshops on curriculum linked themes at your organisation or school.



Sites to Visit

We use a number of sites in Chichester Harbour for our field trips and workshops. Fishbourne Meadows and Chichester Marina are in easy walking distance of the Education Centre at Dell Quay.

Dell Quay

Dell Quay has stunning views and walks, with a muddy shoreline for environmental and coastal themed activities. The classroom, with its facilities, is a useful base for lunchtime or for indoor activities when the weather is very poor.

Fishbourne Meadows



Fishbourne Meadows is a beautiful site. Its streams, reed beds and meadows make it ideal for a wide variety of learning topics. Schools can combine a walk from the meadows to Dell Quay with activities at both sites.

Chichester Marina

Chichester Marina is one of the largest marinas in the UK. A visit here, followed by a walk to Dell Quay, offers many learning opportunities and the chance to view contrasting man-made and natural environments. Nearby is the ancient woodland of Salterns Copse.

Itchenor

Itchenor village is the home of the Harbour Office. From here, there are lovely walks along the coast which can be combined with a trip aboard the *Solar Heritage*, our solar-powered boat, to experience the Harbour from the water.



West Wittering Beach and East Head

West Wittering beach is at the entrance to Chichester Harbour with long, sandy beaches. The beautiful and dynamic sand spit of East Head is popular with visitors and a wonderful place to learn about coastal processes and sand dune habitats.



Beaky's Wildlife Area

This lovely outdoor learning area is a short walk from the classroom. It is specifically designed for younger primary age pupils, with raised ponds, interpretation boards and mini beast hunt areas.



Curriculum Topic Opportunities

Chichester Harbour provides an opportunity to explore a wide range of curriculum topics. Our learning programmes focus on outdoor and first-hand experiences within the natural environment. Here are some of the possible activities, however please talk to us if you have a particular topic in mind.

Art and Photography

The Harbour offers an inspiring and powerful visual stimulus for art and photography. We offer art workshops using natural materials and a range of traditional media and techniques.



Coasts and Rivers

We have a range of activities for studying coasts and rivers. Learn about rivers in our stream at Fishbourne Meadows or coastal erosion, waves and sea defences at West Wittering beach and East Head.

Citizenship

'Junior Conservancy Workshop' Key Stage 2 (upper) and 3

'Junior Conservancy' is a unique workshop where pupils debate an environmental issue. Following various activities at our Education Centre, we travel to a local authority council chamber for debate. These workshops may be available free of charge to local state schools.

History

The Harbour is a great location to study and bring history topics to life. Whether it's the Romans, World War II or the fascinating history of the oyster industry, the Harbour has plenty to tell us about our past.

Investigating Animals, Plants and Habitats

We have a wide range of activities for all ages to learn about plants and animals.



There are many different habitats within easy walking distance of the Education Centre. We offer creature hunts, stream dipping and crabbing from the quay and activities to learn about food chains, classification and adaptations.

Literacy and Numeracy

We offer engaging and fun sessions using the natural environment for Maths and English topics.



Boat Trips

Solar Heritage: Chichester Harbour Conservancy runs a solar-powered boat, *Solar Heritage*. This is a special way to experience the Harbour from the water.

Get Afloat Fund: Free boat trips are available to schools and groups to help them access the water. Groups of adults with special needs can also apply. This fund is supported by the Friends of Chichester Harbour.



Life Skills

We work with secondary age students with a wide range of abilities and have activities for young people and adults with particular individual needs. For example, working outdoors with our Harbour Rangers, developing interpersonal skills, alongside health and wellbeing outcomes. Please contact us if you have a particular project or need in mind.

Secondary and Higher Education Visits

We offer field trips for GCSE Geography, A-level Geography and A-Level Biology and Ecology.

'Our Year 2s had a fantastic time - the adult helpers commented on the high quality support from your team and how well organised the day was. We'll be back next year!' Grove School



Booking your Visit

Planning your visit: Please ring or email us to discuss your trip or needs. You are welcome to visit the Harbour Education Centre and sites for a preliminary look round or as part of your risk assessment.

Booking information: After a booking is made, we will email your confirmation and risk assessments. A field trip programme will be sent out before your visit, confirming times and locations. This includes visitor guidance and worksheet masters.

Field trip timings and information: We offer full or half day visits, with full days beginning at approximately 10am and lasting between 4 and 5 hours. We can cater for up to 60 students per day at the Education Centre and larger groups at West Wittering beach.

Wet weather: We try to get out in all weathers so please dress for the outdoor environment. However, in some conditions we may have to stay indoors but, in most cases, we can bring in live material for visitors to see. Please note all activities at East Head and West Wittering Beach are outdoors.

Booking costs

Field trips and school visits: Our charges are very reasonable. Please see our website or contact us for the current rates.

Minibus: Our 14 seater minibus is available for use with field trips and transport to the centre. Please contact us for more information.

Solar Heritage: Our 50 seater solar-powered catamaran is a great way to experience the Harbour. As well as private bookings, we also run a special scheme with the Friends of Chichester Harbour called 'Get Afloat.' This allows people who would not normally be able to access the water to share this experience. 'Get Afloat' is open to schools and those with special educational needs.

Sea Chests: These are available free for schools to borrow from the Harbour Education Service. They contain a wide variety of resources to do with the coast and Chichester Harbour, such as artefacts, musical instruments and games.



Photographers: Paul Gonella; Paul Adams; Peter Arnold and Matt Simmons.



Chichester Harbour Conservancy

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