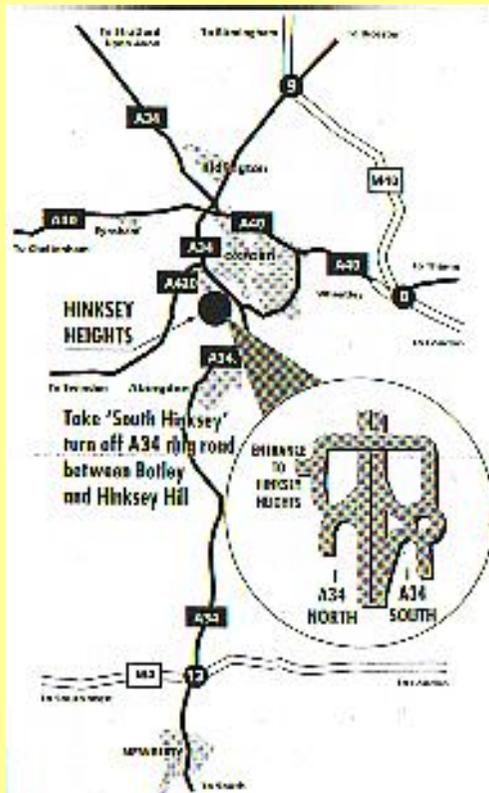


## Site Information

- Main entrance is from the A34 – follow signs for South Hinksey, and Hinksey Heights.
- Car parking available for Nature Trail near entrance from A34 – follow the signs.
- Access is also available from the Harcourt Hill bridleway between Westminster College and the Jubilee Way.
- Allow 90 minutes for the walk from the car park to the top of the Nature Trail and back, 2 hours for the round trip via Chilswell Farm and Happy Valley.
- The trail is not suitable for wheelchairs or pushchairs. There are stiles on the trail.

Hinksey Heights location map:



## Access to the site

We hope you enjoy your visit to Hinksey Heights Nature Park and Trail.

You are welcome to explore the area marked as the Nature Park on the map inside. On the Nature Trail we ask you to stay on the paths which are clearly marked with the following symbol:



Access to the site is via a permissive path. There are no rights of way on the site and access may be changed without warning.

## For Your Safety

Access is not permitted to the adjoining golf course.

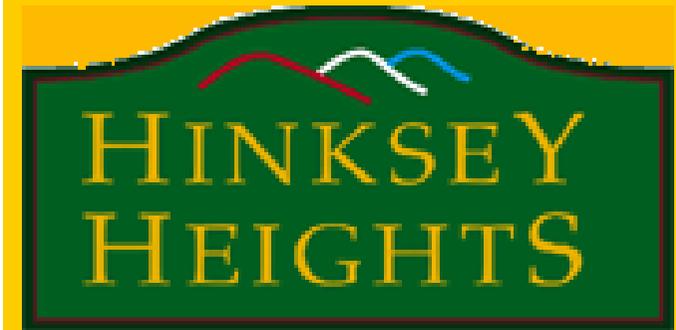
The site can be wet and muddy. Suitable footwear and clothing should be worn.

Never attempt to enter any of the ponds, or to step onto ice which may have formed on them.

Take care at all times as the ground around the trail and park is uneven and can be slippery.

Follow the Country Code wherever you go

For further information contact:  
Hinksey Heights Nature Park and Trail, South Hinksey,  
Oxford, OX1 5AB  
Telephone: 01865 327775 Fax: 01865 736930



## Nature Park & Trail



*An Oxfordshire County Wildlife  
Site of diverse habitats within  
sight of the city of Oxford*

# The Forest School

As you pass the lower pond and enter the woodland you will come across the site of the Forest School. This has been established as a partnership with Northmoor Trust, Siren Wildlife Trust and Hamilton Oxfordshire Schools Partnership.

The idea of the Forest School is to provide children with a regular opportunity to get out of the classroom and experience work together in the countryside. The time spent here enhances pupils' social and practical skills and can help their academic confidence.

For the younger children activities involve exploring the surroundings.



The older children are involved in a range of creative activities. This has included the creation of boardwalks along the trail, installation of new gates and stiles and the construction of the site for the younger children.



# Management of the Site

The Nature Park and Trail is managed by a Nature Trail Warden. The aims are to maximise the conservation and ecological interest, and to facilitate public access with an emphasis on its use as an educational resource.

The map inside shows the diverse nature of the Nature Park and Trail with six types of habitat. The wet woodland, fen and reedbeds, and some of the grassland areas are important in local conservation. The site as a whole is an important corridor for the movement of wildlife as it links to other woodland and wetland sites.

A policy of minimal intervention is used in managing the Nature Trail and Park. For the woodland and scrub areas this means clearance of trees which become dangerous. Dead wood will be left in the scrub to attract birds, bats, insects, fungi and mosses.

The grassland areas have a small number of grazing animals throughout the year. Where the scrub encroaches into the grassland it will be cut back.

The wetland areas, including the reedbeds, fen and ponds, will require small areas to be cleared of reeds on a rotational basis to prevent the area drying out.



# A guide to some species found at Hinksey Heights



## Grey Partridge

They like small fields, where they will feed on insects, and hedges for protection and breeding.



## Bullfinch

Generally seen in pairs rather than in flocks. They will feed on buds and seeds as well as snails



## Linnet

Linnets feed on seeds, such as oil-seed rape and insects. In winter you may see them feeding in a mixed flock with other seed eating birds



## Skylark

You are most likely to recognise the skylark by its song as it hovers high over open grassland



## Yellowhammer

Most likely to be seen singing, perched on top of a bush. Can also be seen in hedges and on arable farms where they feed on seeds.

All of these birds are considered to be in decline in this country and are on the 'red list' of birds considered to be of high conservation concern.