

**All you need to know
about your Christmas
Lilidorei visit**



Information for all Schools

When is the Schools' Christmas School Offer available?

- Thursday 21st November
- Friday 22nd November
- Thursday 28th November
- Friday 29th November
- Thursday 5th December
- Friday 6th December
- Thursday 12th December
- Friday 13th December
- Thursday 19th December
- Friday 20th December

For each of the above dates, Lilidorei is open 10.00am – 3.30pm.

School Bookings

We look forward to welcoming your at Lilidorei soon on one of our School Christmas Offer Days.

Pupils are charged at a rate of £3.00 each and all accompanying adults at a rate of £5.00 each. Please note that your entrance fee also allows you to visit The Alnwick Garden (open 10.00am – 3.30pm) on your visit date.

Please book by filling in our booking form. All groups will need to pre-book their visit beforehand. You can do so by completing the online form [here](#). Once you have completed the booking form, please send it back via email to groups@alnwickgarden.com or post it to Groups, The Alnwick Garden, Gardeners Cottage, Greenwell Road, Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 1HB.

When we have received your form, we will contact you via email to confirm your booking.

Lilidorei Activities

Children should be advised that when they see the gates into Lilidorei they should stay quiet as the gate keeper is listening!

When you arrive at The Village Green you will have a welcome talk from a Secret Keeper on the village green about your visit and will be advised where to put your belongings.

The activities that are available to you whilst visiting Lilidorei to engage your children during their visit are:

1. Story Telling – a chance for your children to join in the story telling of 'The Littlest Reindeer' with the Storyteller.
2. Christmas Around the World Challenge – explore the Lilidorei village whilst completing the challenge. The children will have to explore the village and ask Secret Keepers to find the answers.
3. Make a wish – when the children (and the adults!) pass the wishing tree, they will be encouraged to place their wish in it by our Secret Keepers.
4. Playing on Elfwin Drin – the tallest play structure in the world.
5. Before you depart, visit your school's own Christmas Tree decorated with the decorations brought with you to Lilidorei.
6. **All children (and adults!) who visit Lilidorei will be given a bespoke Lilidorei bookmark and sticker.**

Story time will take place at a **given time** for all schools. The other activities can take place any time during your visit. It is up to you! It is advised that schools should follow their own risk assessments for these activities (Christmas Around the World Challenge and playing on Elfwin Drin) regarding the organisation and supervision of the children around the site. Secret Keepers will be there for guidance only.

Lilidorei Christmas Learning Resources

There are several learning resources for both pre and post visit to Lilidorei, all linked with your Lilidorei visit. We have tried to ensure that the workload for delivery in school is minimum for teaching staff but fully immersive for the children. All units of work are made up of lesson plans, resources and presentation to support the learning in lessons.

This year we have kept a few of the Christmas trees bare in Lilidorei. We are asking all the children who are visiting us to make and bring with them a Christmas decoration that can be put on one of the bare trees and named with a school plaque produced by us. We do ask that if you want the children to name their decorations individually that you follow your own school's policy on how these are named.

Click **here** for all of our educational resources and activities. These include:

The Bare Christmas Tree – a DT project when children design, make and evaluate a Christmas tree decoration to be hung on your school's named Christmas tree. An activity booklet for a step by step approach is included in the resources, along with lesson plans and lesson presentations.

Christmas Around the World – when you visit Lilidorei, you will hear about how Christmas is celebrated in other countries. This is a Geography activity where children are asked to find the similarities and differences between the UK and another country using the county knowledge organisers provided.

Christmas Story – from listening to 'The Littlest Reindeer' at Lilidorei, this unit of work takes the children step by step to story writing from planning, setting description, character descriptions, plot and resolution. All resources are supported with story writing templates, picture banks, word banks and success criteria.

Let's Have a Party - this is mainly a maths activity which sees the children advance their mathematical skills. The children will be asked to compete in teams (businesses) within the class to plan a party with associated costs and present (pitch) their idea to the rest of the class.

Party Setting Description – using their senses children are encouraged to set the scene in a writing activity of a party that they have been to.

It's Christmas Time – this is an enterprise activity that helps the children advance their enterprise skills and undertake a number of different activities in a real-life situation business situation. For the unit of work, you will need to organise a Christmas Sale that the products can be sold at – this could be a Christmas Fair, After School Sale, Open Classroom Day, Parent/Carer Evening etc. The children will be asked to compete in teams (small businesses) within the class to produce a product and sell it at a class/year/school fair. They will compete with each other to see who can make the most profit.

Advent Calendar of Kindness – use our alternative advent calendar and encourage acts of kindness by the children each day.

Northumberland County Council Provider Statement

For any Northumberland School, please request the pre-signed Northumberland County Council Provider Statement when you confirm your booking if required.

Pre-Visits & Risk Management

Please be aware that Lilidorei is a teacher led initiative built around the National Curriculum using Lilidorei's magical kingdom with the help of the Secret Keepers. We strongly recommend that school staff visit Lilidorei ahead of your school's trip. You will receive an invitation for up to two staff members to visit us when you confirm your booking.

This will help you to familiarise yourself with the environment and we can answer any questions personally. You know your own pupils better than us so you may want to look at the activities offered and how you think your children should be supervised throughout these activities. Additionally, it also helps to plan for pupils with specific needs or medical requirements.

It is advised that schools follow their own risk assessments for the Christmas Around the World Challenge and playing on Elfwin Drin regarding organisation and supervising of the children whilst competing these. Secret Keepers will be there for guidance and safety only. Each child will be issued with a pencil for the challenge. We ask that the children do not play on Elfwin Drin with any pencils so as to avoid accidents. Please can these be collected in and returned to a member of staff.

We expect students to be supervised at all times around the site. Students are expected to not litter and not use inappropriate language. Smoking and vaping on site is prohibited and anyone found to contravene these rules may be asked to leave the premises.

If there are any adaptations that staff on site can help to provide, please make us aware via your booking form, during your pre-visit, by phone or via email.

Map of The Alnwick Garden

Click [here](#) for a map of The Alnwick Garden that shows a full and accurate description of The Alnwick Garden Site, including all amenities, facilities and services.

Timings

One week before your visit...

Our Education Officer will contact you to see if you have any questions and to advise you of timings of your day and when activities will take place. If you have any questions in advance, please call 01665 660317.

On the day of your visit...

Arrival

Coach/Minibus

If arriving by coach or minibus, your coach or mini-bus should use the following postcode to navigate the drop off point – NE66 1FJ. This is the car park next to The Treehouse. Your coach/minibus will then be directed to park in the main car park during your visit.

You will be greeted at your coach by a member of The Alnwick Garden staff. School Staff will be handed an on-site learning pack for all the children within your group. This will consist of pencils and our Christmas Around the World Challenge. These will need to be distributed to your children.

If you have completed our pre visit activity and brought Christmas tree decorations with you, these can be handed to a member of staff who will then take them to decorate your school tree that will be dressed ready for photographs to be taken before you depart. These photographs will be uploaded onto the website.

Foot

You will be greeted at your coach by a member of The Alnwick Garden staff. School Staff will be handed an on-site learning pack for all the children within your group. This will consist of pencils and our Christmas Around the World Challenge. These will need to be distributed to your children.

If you have completed our pre visit activity and brought Christmas Tree decorations with you, these can be handed to a member of staff who will then take them to decorate your school tree that will be dressed ready for photographs before you depart.

Departure

On your departure you will be given a pack that contains your bespoke Lilidorei bookmarks and stickers for every child and adult that visited in your group.

Weather

Lilidorei is an outdoor magical village that has limited covered space. Visitors should come prepared for all weather – sun, wind, rain and snow! We try and remain open regardless of the weather. However, we do need to follow our risk assessments in certain types of weather. Please be assured your safety is our main concern. If we need to close Lilidorei or any part of Elfwin Drin on your visit day, you will be informed by one of our team.

First Aid

Lilidorei has its own First Aid House housing a fully equipped first aid kit. There are trained first aiders on site at all times. We would like to remind you that DfE guidelines do state that all visiting schools are responsible for providing a teacher or adult helper with good up to date knowledge of first aid and is in possession of an adequate first aid kit.

Lunch

There are no allocated seating areas inside Lilidorei for groups to eat their packed lunch. You are welcome to sit on the grass area outside bookings in The Alnwick Garden. However, please note this is not a seated area and is not undercover.

Photography

Photography is encouraged at Lilidorei, but not filming. However, if you do take photographs, you must ensure only children from your school are included and that you follow your own school's policies.

Shop

On exiting Lilidorei, there is a wonderful shop with a variety of gifts at a range of prices. The shop accepts cash so your group is welcome to bring spending money to use when visiting. We would ask that the children enter the shop in small groups and are supervised at all times.

Evaluation Form

We are always looking at ways to improve. We want to ensure that our activities and programmes offered are current and relevant. Following your visit, we would ask if you could fill in our online evaluation form [here](#).

Visiting Schools' Gallery

We have a special area on our website to display children's work that has been created from the Lilidorei resources. Please can you send any work from your children that you would like to be displayed here to communityandeducation@alnwickgarden.com. We would ask that you do name the child's work in a manner that you have permission for at school as this is how it will appear on the website. For every child who has their work displayed, they will receive a personalised Lilidorei certificate sent to school.

Additionally, if you have any school photographs that you would like us to display, please also send these to the above address. Again, we ask that you follow your own schools' policies for us to display these online.

Who to contact?

If you would like to speak to someone about a school visit, please call our designated Community and Education team on 01665 660317 or email info@alnwickgarden.com