



William Scott Abbott Trust

## Accessibility Guide for Sacrewell

[www.sacrewell.org.uk](http://www.sacrewell.org.uk) 01780 782254 [office@sacrewell.org.uk](mailto:office@sacrewell.org.uk)



### Welcome

Since 1964, The William Scott Abbott Trust has run Sacrewell, a 50-acre site, as a charity with the aim of providing an agricultural education for everyone, from school children to heritage enthusiasts.

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Sacrewell holds a special place in the hearts of our visitors, with many who explored the farm as children bringing their own families to see us, over and over again.

In accordance with the charitable aims and strategy of the Trust, emphasis is placed on education and outreach, providing opportunities for people to learn about the countryside, agriculture, food and farming.

Sacrewell also provides opportunities to take the curriculum outdoors. Visits are made by school children of all ages from surrounding areas who enjoy the natural play areas the site provides, and who love to visit Sacrewell's animals and heritage buildings.

Please get in touch if you require any further information about specific access or need advice on planning your visit.

## At a Glance

Our visitor attraction is located off the A1/A47 near Peterborough in Cambridgeshire.

Sacrewell has natural areas across the site and the terrain is varied. There are areas where water may be deep and where rocks, paths and steps may be slippery. Grassy pathways can become muddy in bad weather and surfaces may be uneven.

Sacrewell is also home to a restored 18th century watermill where there are low ceilings and steep steps.

Visitors are urged to take extra care and wear sensible footwear. Children must always be under adult supervision.

### Level Access

- There is level access from the main entrance to:
  - Our visitor centre including our reception, shop and the on-site cafe
  - The Pemberton Room (our conference room)
  - Male, female and accessible toilets
  - The Playbarn, sandpit and courtyard seating area
  - Our large outdoor play area
  - The animal paddocks
  - Our 18<sup>th</sup> Century watermill interpretation experience
  - Our small animal barn
  - The mill stream and mill pond
- Ramps are in place providing access for wheelchairs and pushchairs to courtyard units

### Visual

- Glass doors and full-height windows have contrast markings
- Some parts of the venue have low lighting

- We have subtitled and BSL video interpretation with audio in the mill

## General

- Entry is free for carers
- All staff have equality, diversity and inclusivity awareness training

## Getting here

For full details and maps of how to reach us please see directions on our 'Contact us' section of our website. Alternatively, you can plan your journey by car or public transport using a journey planning website using our postcode PE8 6HJ as the destination.

### *Travel by public transport*

- The nearest railway stations are Stamford (6.7miles) and Peterborough (8.6miles). Taxis are available at the station
- Using CallConnect on demand bus service will bring you directly to Sacrewell on pre-booked journeys Monday - Saturday. Call CallConnect on 0345 234 3344 for more information

### *Parking*

- There is a drop-off point at the main entrance
- There is a car parking area on hard standing with overflow parking available in grassy fields. There are allocated accessible parking bays



## Arrival

### *Path to main entrance*

- From the car park to the main entrance, there is level access
- The hard standing car park is a mixture of gravel and concrete with natural lighting only
- There is a marked tarmac pedestrian walkway with zebra crossings

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## *Main entrance*

- The main entrance has level access
- The main door is 129cm wide, sliding and automatic

View of our main entrance from the car park



## Getting around inside

### *Visual Impairment - General Information*

- We have contrast markings on glass doors and full-height windows and high colour contrast between walls and door frames
- Some parts of the venue have low lighting



### *Ticket/ information desk*

#### *Ticketing area*

- From the main entrance to the desk, there is level access. The area is evenly and well-lit with overhead lighting consistent throughout the visitor reception, shop and café
- Pen paper are available at the counter, and there is a clear line of site / no visible obstructions to aid lip reading and visitors with a visual impairment
- We welcome dogs on leads to our visitor attraction, with water bowls across site



### *Things to See and Do*

- Information signs are displayed across the site in an accessible format. QR codes are provided to give visitors additional detail
- Some information signs in the Sensory Garden and Educational Market Garden also use braille
- Across the site the floor surfaces vary between grass, gravel, concrete, tiled and a cobbled floor surface

### *The Playbarn*

- The Playbarn is a large barn to the right of the visitor centre, up a concrete path on a slight incline. The facilities include an indoor soft play area, a seating area of picnic tables, a café kiosk (with variable opening times) and public toilets.
- The entrance doors are a twin set, both with a minimum width of 83cm.
- The picnic tables are well spaced out and have a table top height of 71cm
- There are some pay-to-play activities in the Playbarn, some have flashing lights and music
- There is a handwashing station outside main entrance to the Playbarn



### *Animal paddocks*

- The animal paddocks are spread throughout the site and are located on varied terrain – grass, gravel, concrete
- The paddocks are enclosed with fencing
- Handwashing stations are available in the vicinity of animal paddocks. Many of these are push / knee operated

### *The 18<sup>th</sup> Century watermill*

- The 18th Century Grade II listed working watermill is a 4-storey building with interpreted exhibition spaces, public toilets and a hand wash station. All effort has been made to

ensure this historical building is as accessible as possible but due to the nature of the heritage building, there are very steep steps, low ceilings and wooden and cobbled floors

- On the right of the gravel mill courtyard is a glass walled exhibition area including an audiovisual display with subtitled and BSL video interpretation, metal rubbings and a miniature model encased in glass to view in 360°

#### *The mill pond*

- The mill pond and bird hide can be accessed via external steps at the side of the mill, a steep grass incline from the mill garden, or a gravel path running alongside the mill stream

#### *Mill stream meadow*

- Mill stream meadow and Pooh Sticks bridge are opposite the mill area and consist of a wide wooden bridge with a hand wash station and a large sloped grass area leading down to a small stream, natural play area and small wooden pond dipping platform
- The meadow is a grassed area and the surface can be uneven and muddy in wet weather
- Pooh Sticks bridge is over 3 metres wide and has a wooden and astro turf floor
- In the woods there is a small children's play area with rope climbing frames. The surface is grass/mud or woodchip and can be uneven

#### *Outdoor children's play area*

- There is a large children's play area and hedge maze located between the visitor centre and the mill
- The park has play areas for children of various ages and activities including climbing frames, swings and slides
- There are ramps and accessible play equipment including a roundabout
- The play area has surfaces made from astro turf, rubber, sand, grass, wood, wood chip and concrete
- There are some picnic tables and wooden shelters in this area

#### *Tractor and trailer rides*

- The tractor and trailer rides run dependent on a number of operational factors. The tractor tour activity lasts a minimum of 20 minutes. If they are operational, rides can be booked at an additional cost in the visitor centre
- One member of staff drives the tractor while an audio commentary plays
- The trailer is accessed via 3 metal steps or a ramp
- There are forward and side facing benches
- The tour travels across rough terrain through the wider site and can be bumpy. All passengers must remain seated throughout the ride with arms and heads remaining within the trailer

### *Courtyard*

- The courtyard is at the top of the site on a slight incline
- The courtyard has a gravel and concrete surface
- Access to courtyard units is available using ramps

### *Cafe*

- The cafe is situated in the step free visitor centre
- Tables in the cafe are wooden and well-spaced
- Lighting in all areas is a combination of natural daylight and overhead artificial lighting
- The nearest public toilets are directly outside the main cafe entrance door, a distance of approximately 3m
- Where possible ingredients are sourced locally. Dietary requirements are catered for. The café can be contacted in advance to check any specific requirements

### *Shop*

- There is a shop with a wide range of souvenirs, books, toys, and ice cream / sorbet
- A range of ice creams / sorbet are labelled with 'dairy-free', 'suitable for a vegan diet', and 'contains gluten'
- Step free access to the shop in the visitor centre, and level throughout.
- There is ample room within the shop for wheelchairs to maneuver and turn.
- The tills are located at the welcome desk

### *Public toilets*

- Public toilets are located across site in four locations: Visitor centre, Playbarn, courtyard and the mill. All four locations offer accessible toilets.
- Baby change facilities are also available
- Due to the historical and working nature of the site, each location has different dimensions

### *Emergency evacuation procedures*

- We have emergency evacuation procedures for visitors with additional needs. Please make Sacrewell staff aware if anyone is in need of additional assistance
- In the case of an evacuation, all customers inside Sacrewell will be led to safety by a member of the team

### *Customer care support*

- All staff have equality, diversity and inclusivity training
- We have some information in audio, BSL, subtitles and braille