



EDUCATION VISIT WELCOME PACK

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The University of Manchester



1. ON THE DAY OF YOUR VISIT

What to bring on the day

- Weather appropriate clothes to explore our outside areas.
- For young groups arriving on coaches, we advise bringing at least one set of spare clothes in case someone gets travel sick.
- Your time exploring our exhibitions is self-guided. We recommend printing copies of our Exhibition Worksheets to support your visit, you can find the at [Planning your trip - Jodrell Bank](#). Don't forget to also bring pencils or pens.
- If you wish to see a map of the site, you can download our sitemap from [Sitemap – Jodrell Bank](#).

Directions to Jodrell Bank.

Jodrell Bank Centre for Engagement is located at Bomish Lane, Lower Withington, Cheshire. The postcode of the site is **SK11 9DW** if you would like to use Sat Nav.

For more information, please visit [Getting Here - Jodrell Bank](#)

Arrival Instructions & Parking

Enter the site via the Bomish Lane entrance and follow the drive to the car park.

Coaches can park along the green fence line (signposted as coach parking).

Upon arrival, please gather your group and head to Planet Pavilion to sign-in. Please note, we cannot allow visitors to enter the site before 10am.

Phone free zone

Jodrell Bank is a live radio observatory. Mobile phones interfere with our radio telescopes, which are in use 24 hours a day. We therefore operate a radio-quiet policy and require that all visitors set their phones to flight mode or switch them off.

During a visit:

- Mobile phones must not be used on site for calls, texts, internet, Bluetooth, or other wireless communication, for any reason.
- Mobile phones must not be left switched on, unless they are on flight mode.
- If you may need to be contacted during the day, please give out our main reception line: 01477 571 766. Our staff will then relay the message to you.
- If you need to make a call during your visit, you are welcome to use one of our landlines; simply ask a member of our staff.
- You are welcome to use your mobile to take photos; provided it is set to flight mode.

Accessibility

We are committed to developing the best possible access to all visitors. For more information, please visit [Accessibility Statement - Jodrell Bank](#).

Lunch

When you check-in, you will be provided a lunch trolley to store your packed lunches.



- We only have capacity for 1 lunch trolley per group/itinerary.
- Please bear in mind that our trolleys are not big enough to hold a full group set of backpacks.
- We recommend you bring lunches in reusable lunch boxes to cut down on single-use waste.
- Lunch trolleys are stored in our School Lunch Shed. As you make your way to your lunch area, an adult member of your group can collect your trolley.
- We will provide you a bin bag for your lunch waste. After your lunch, we ask to please place your waste bag in the trolley and take your trolley back to the School Lunch Shed.

Your group will be allocated an indoor eating space for your lunch break. The time and location will be stated on your itinerary. Please be as prompt as possible as other groups will be booked in before or after you.



If your group would prefer to eat outside, we have plenty of outdoor picnic spaces available around the site which you are welcome to use.

Our Café is open from 10am to 4.30pm where adult members of your group can purchase food or drinks. Please note there may be a wait, especially during busy times. For more information, please visit [Food and Drink - Jodrell Bank](#)

Groups should use the allocated lunch space to eat their packed lunches, and not the Café.

Toilets

Toilets (including accessible facilities) are available in each of our buildings.

Please note, the number of toilets in each building is limited; you may find it easier to split your group and visit different buildings.

Gift Shop

Our gift shop is situated in the Planet Pavilion. We ask large groups to split into smaller groups of no more than 20 before going into the gift shop. Students must be accompanied by an adult when entering the shop.

Please note, our gift shop is predominantly busy at the end of the school day (13:45 – 14:00), as multiple schools will be leaving. We recommend visiting the shop during your lunch break or exhibition time, when possible, to make your experience more enjoyable.

Film and Photography

You are welcome to document your experience via film and photography. If using a mobile device, please make sure it is set to flight mode. Remember you may be in a session with other people who may not consent to being filmed or photographed.

It is not allowed to film or photograph our presenter-led sessions and Space Dome shows.

Smoking

All forms of smoking are prohibited within the centre. This applies to e-cigarettes.

Pets

Pets are not permitted at Jodrell Bank. Only assistance dogs are allowed within the premises or on the grounds of Jodrell Bank. For more information about accredited assistant dogs please visit [Visitor FAQs - Jodrell Bank](#)

Vehicles and Remote-Control Devices

To protect the safety of people and our scientific work we do not allow vehicles or remote-controlled devices on site. This includes hoverboards, skateboards, cycles, scooters, and ride on toys, etc. Devices such as drones, model aircraft, etc., are also not permitted.

2. WHAT'S ON SITE?

Jodrell Bank is situated in the heart of Cheshire. It is a stunning green site surrounded by farmland and with an abundance of wildlife. There are numerous Pavilions to discover, alongside a range of outdoor exhibits and pathways to explore.

At the heart of Jodrell Bank is the giant Lovell telescope, which has been doing world-class radio astronomy since 1957.



Please note:

- We will be open to the public during your visit and your group will be sharing our exhibition spaces with members of the public and other school groups.
- The Lovell telescope is sometimes undergoing maintenance from our engineers during the day; during these times it will not be observing or moving.
- Visitors are not allowed into the observatory building or up the Lovell telescope. The observatory is a working environment, and the Lovell telescope is in use 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The First Light Pavilion

This is our newest building, containing an exhibition related to the heritage and history of Jodrell Bank, as well as the Space Dome.



The First Light Exhibition includes interactive displays, audio, and video about:

Ways of Seeing

- Building structures to understand the universe
- Why we use Radio Telescopes
- Using different wavelengths of light

Bernard Lovell

- What experiences he had through his life that led him to Jodrell Bank
- His work on radar during the Second World War

The “Fairground”

- Jodrell Bank Experimental Station – Early Days of astronomical research at Jodrell Bank

Building a Giant Telescope

- The engineering and financial challenges

Telescopes at Work

- The work of the Radio Telescopes
- Space Tracking
- The Space Race
- Researchers at Jodrell Bank today

Beyond Science

- Jodrell Bank in culture

Panels of the original 1950s surface of the Lovell Telescope are integrated into the exhibition and can be touched and projected onto. One of the projections is the Universe Projection. A changing image of the view from our planet in radio waves.

The Planet Pavilion

This building has the Planet Café, the Gift Shop, and an exhibition space with a Clockwork Orrery (a clockwork mechanism representing the Sun and planets in our Solar System, illustrating the position, size, and motions of the planets).



The Star Pavilion

This building holds the Wolfson Auditorium, which is only open for events and activities. There are no exhibitions in this building.

The Space Pavilion

This building has our interactive 'Science of Jodrell Bank' exhibition. The exhibition includes:

- A live data feed from the Lovell telescope (please note, this is in the form of a data plot and not an image of what the telescope is 'seeing').
- A hands-on model of the Lovell telescope.
- Interactive interviews with some of the scientists and engineers who work at Jodrell Bank.
- An infrared thermal camera.
- The gravity well; a hands-on model of a black hole.
- The 'Big Bang cone' playing the 'sound' of the first 100 million years from real data.
- A usable, see-through Newtonian telescope.
- Information about the biggest telescopes around the world and some of the astonishing images they have created.



Outdoor exhibits

Jodrell Bank has various outdoor exhibits and activities. As they are outside, please bring weather appropriate clothes in case the weather is inclement.

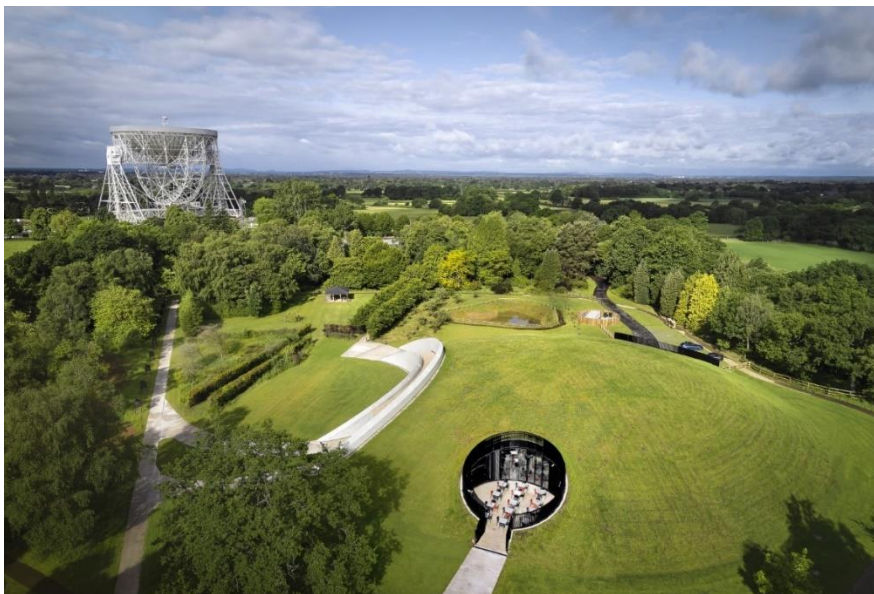
Our outdoor exhibits include:

- The Telescope Pathway: Follow the path around the base of the Lovell telescope and find information boards that will give information about the construction of the telescope and objects it observes.
- Outdoor experiments: See how curved shapes can amplify faint signals with our Whispering dishes, experiment with gravity just like Galileo, or find out more about Jupiter's rotation.
- Exhibition pathway - Follow the path displaying images that illustrate Jodrell Bank at work, including the role of the telescope and what it takes to run the observatory 365 days a year.

Grounds and Woodlands

Jodrell Bank contains 35 acres of grounds and woodlands, which include an arboretum, multiple ponds, and an abundance of wildlife. Please note that the grounds and woodlands are closed early during the winter months and that if the weather is severe (e.g., high winds) these areas will be closed all day.

The grounds also include an outdoor Play Area located next to the First Light Pavilion.



3. EXHIBITION WORKSHEETS

We recommend printing copies of our exhibition worksheets and bringing them on your visit. Don't forget to bring pencils or pens.

[Key Stage 1 – Worksheets](#)

[Key Stage 1 – Worksheet Answers](#)

[Key Stage 2 – Worksheets](#)

[Key Stage 2 – Worksheet Answers](#)

[Key Stage 3 – Worksheets](#)

[Key Stage 3 – Worksheet Answers](#)

[Key Stage 4 – Worksheets](#)

[Key Stage 4 – Worksheet Answers](#)

[A-Level – Worksheets](#)

[A-Level – Worksheet Answers](#)

4. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Code of Conduct

At Jodrell Bank Centre for Engagement, we support and empower diverse audiences and communities to participate in science, culture, and heritage. We aim to connect people with Jodrell Bank and with each other, and we understand the value of shared and inclusive experiences.

To provide our audiences with excellent service, remember that:

- Verbally abusive, harassing, discriminatory, undermining, or threatening statements or behaviour toward staff, volunteers or visitors are prohibited.
- The principles of diversity, inclusion, and equal access apply to all aspects of our operations, across all individuals.

Supervision and behaviour

Children under the age of 18, should not be left unaccompanied during their visit. We ask adult group leaders to always remain with young learners to ensure wellbeing and safety, and to supervise behaviour. Please note that schools/colleges/parents/other institutions remain responsible for learners whilst at Jodrell Bank.

Please make sure you have the correct adult-to-young learner ratio. We recommend:

- 1:6 for ages 3-7
- 1:7 for ages 7-11
- 1:10 for ages 11-16
- 1:15 for ages 16-18

Please ensure any accompanying adults have the necessary experience and authority to supervise a group of children on a trip.

Before your visit, discuss appropriate conduct with young learners. Any learners observed behaving dangerously will be challenged and if necessary, prevented from further participation in any activity.

Please be aware we operate CCTV on this site, and we reserve the right to charge visitors for any damage that is caused intentionally to our buildings, site, exhibits and fixtures and fittings.

Young learners must be always accompanied by an adult. In the instance of a young learner becoming separated from the group leaders, contact a member of staff. Brief your group that if they become separated, they should ask a uniformed member of staff for help and stay with them. Jodrell Bank staff are aware of safeguarding requirements when helping young people separated from their group. Ensure everyone is present before leaving the site.

Outdoors Spaces

Please remember that we share this site with an abundance of wildlife and carefully manage the grounds to cause minimal disturbance. This is why you will see wildflowers planting, regenerative works, and a large section of grass left unmown.

Our grounds also include several open ponds. We ask you therefore to be aware of the danger of open water, and of ice during colder spells. Ponds are not to play, and we kindly ask that children are always supervised.

Medical Emergency

If any of your group should require first aid, please contact a member of staff. There are first aiders on site during opening hours that can help. Our site is equipped with automatic defibrillators and a first aid room.

If individuals require medication remember to bring it and keep it with you throughout the day.

Please note, individuals with pacemakers, insulin pumps, or medical electronic devices, must not interact with the plasma ball in the Space Pavilion.

Fire and Evacuation

The Fire Alarm comprises of two alternating tones when activated.

In the event of a fire or other emergency please evacuate the building through the nearest fire exit. Please leave the building and go to the nearest assembly point.

Assembly points:

- First Light Pavilion Assembly Point: In front of **Golden Ticket Booths**
- Planet Pavilion: In front of **Golden Ticket Booths**
- Space Pavilion: In front of the **Lovell Telescope Fence**.
- Star Pavilion: In front of the **Lovell Telescope Fence**.

At the assembly point please take the register and report any missing persons to a member of Jodrell Bank staff. Staff will advise you when it is safe to return.

Please brief your group what to do in the event of an evacuation, before your visit.

Risk Assessment

We encourage those who have made a booking to come on a pre-planning visit, to get familiarised with the site and conduct their own risk assessment. Please email jodrelleducation@manchester.ac.uk to arrange a pre-planning visit.

Pre-Planning Visit: If coming solely to plan a school trip, your admission and parking will be free of charge. If you will be combining your planning trip with a general visit, parking charges will apply, as well as admission charges for any accompanying people.

You can find our risk assessments at:

[General Risk Assessment – Education Visits](#)

[Space Dome Risk Assessment](#)

[Risk Assessment for KS3 & KS4](#)

Additional documents can be found at:

[UoM Safeguarding Children Policy and Guidance](#)

[Public Liability Confirmation of Cover](#)