



One of three guides to
Parks and Open Spaces -
West Bedford & Kempston

A PLACE BEDFORD PARKS



- Angling
- Angling - Disabled
- Basketball court
- BMX facility
- Bowling green
- Car park / Roadside parking
- Changing rooms
- Community Centre
- Cricket pitch
- Cycle routes
- Football pitches
- 5-a-side / casual football
- Multi-use games area
- Play area
- Skateboard facility
- Suitable for buggies and people with restricted mobility
- Table tennis
- Tennis court
- Toilets
- Water sports - rowing, canoeing, sailing
- Wildlife area





During the early 20th century, W H Allen Queen's Park was built to accommodate the employed almost 3,500 people. Much of workers and Allen Park was home to many

Allen Park

This network of popular sports pitches is next to a deep, peaceful natural riverside environment, providing quiet walks through willows and water meadows stretching from Queens Bridge to Kempston Mill.

Hillgrounds & Riverside walk

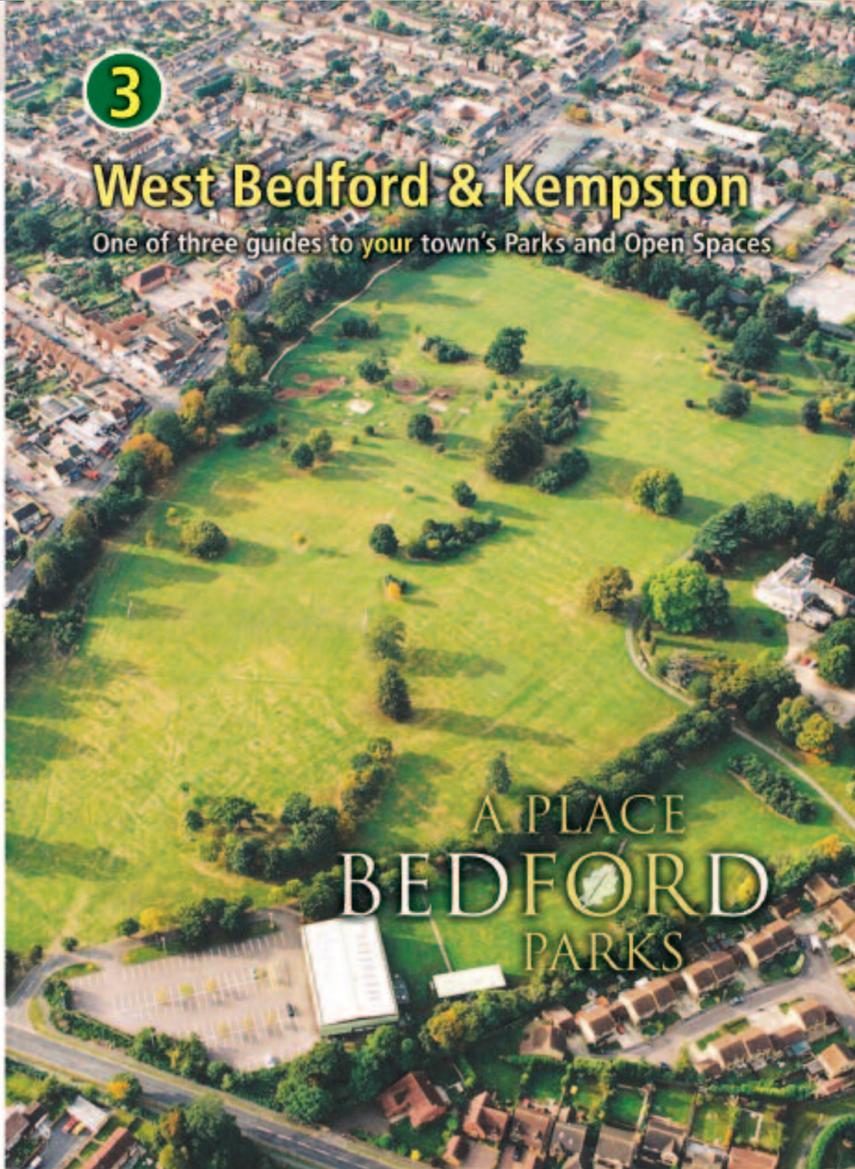
All the information you need is here so have a look around and see what your local open spaces, parks and play areas have to offer you. And don't forget that Bedford is surrounded by some wonderful countryside: footpaths and bridleways are a great way to explore the woods, fields and villages of Bedfordshire and the best routes from town are shown on the map.

The park still retains some of its original features and has some excellent specimen trees. There is something for all ages with a large, modern play area, sports pitches, tennis courts and a wildflower area. The park, formerly a nineteenth century landscape designed garden, was donated to the people of Kempston by Mrs Howard in 1937 who lost her son, Addison Howard, in WW1.

Addison Howard Park

A snapshot of some of the area's larger parks. Our bigger green spaces have many attractions but the smaller sites are well worth exploring and enjoying. And if you want some peace and quiet, they may often be less busy.

Parks and Green Spaces in Kempston & (West Bedford)



3

West Bedford & Kempston

One of three guides to your town's Parks and Open Spaces

A PLACE
BEDFORD
PARKS

Bedford and Kempston are criss-crossed by quiet roads and cycle routes and many of these pass through parks. The town is small enough to make most places 'an easy ride' and of course, cycling is great for the environment and your wellbeing. 'Tag along' bikes and trailers for children mean that all of the family can come. Follow the blue signs to your local park or use the map to venture further afield. A comprehensive cycle map for Bedford and Kempston is available from the Tourist Information Centre.

Cycling

Most people in Bedford live within half a mile of their closest park and many are nearer than that. That's a 15 minute walk which can also help to work off some calories. Some route information is shown on the map and many of the blue cycleway signs have parks information on them.

Walking

The Bedford Green Wheel is a project to develop the existing network of traffic-free paths and quiet routes for cyclists and walkers around Bedford linking parks, nature reserves, countryside and homes. For more information contact the Parks Team on **01234 718278**.

Bedford Green Wheel

It's so easy to walk or cycle to green places in your neighbourhood and leaving the car at home can save you money and improve your health.

Getting there...



Other Attractions

For further information on the town and country parks and outdoor recreation facilities managed by Bedford Borough Council, please visit www.bedford.gov.uk/parksandopenspaces

You will also find information on local In Bloom Campaigns at www.bedford.gov.uk/bedfordinbloom

In Bloom is a growing movement across our area, much encouraged by Bedford's success in recent years at both regional and national level.

Get Involved

We are always on the look out for volunteers to help with the management of our parks. Volunteer activities occur all year round and include tree and bulb planting, shrub pruning, weeding and litter picking.

If you're interested in getting involved in your local park, please contact our Senior Parks Officer on **01234 221749**

Bedford Tree Fund

Bedford Tree Fund is an independent charity working to support the planting and upkeep of trees in the parks, streets and open spaces throughout the Borough of Bedford.



If you would like to find out more please visit www.bedfordtreefund.org

Not everyone is a dog lover and dogs can scare many people especially children - please keep dogs under control.

- Dog fouling is a criminal offence and can cause infections - clean up after your dog and get rid of the mess responsibly.
- Offenders can face Fixed Penalty fines.
- Please make sure that your dog doesn't disturb wild birds and animals - they can be very vulnerable.

Keep dogs under control

We would welcome suggestions on improving our parks for all users - please contact the Parks Team on **01234 718278**.

Many of Bedford's parks and green spaces are suitable for people with disabilities. Flat and surfaced paths, fishing platforms and some car surfacing are available at different sites.

Access for all

Consider other people and make your park a better place

Your green spaces can be similar to the countryside or roads - sometimes busy, conflicts are possible and unthinking or poor behaviour can cause offence or danger to other people. Bedford Borough Council Officers have the authority to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for the offences of littering, dog fouling and graffiti in all areas of the Borough. So remember that Bedford and Kempston's parks are your parks and treat them with care and respect.

The Bedford Parks' Code



What's On Offer?

For People

Our parks and green spaces have something for everyone. From places to simply stop and unwind to the excitement of major events, parks are vital to Bedford and Kempston's well-being. If you want to improve your health, meet friends or watch the world go by, what better place than your local park? And it's usually only a stone's throw away.

For Pleasure

Walking off the Sunday lunch...a spin on your bike...admiring nature's colours...an evening jog...listening to the band...an ice cream on a hot day...relaxing with the family...even early morning tai chi...where else but your local park?

For Play

Swings or skateboarding? Basketball or bowling? Rowing or rugby? Even putting or ping pong! Bedford and Kempston's parks and green places have play and sports facilities for all ages and abilities. With well over 80 play areas and provision for football, rugby, tennis, bowling, boating, cricket, basketball and simply running or cycling, our parks have something to help everyone's health and well being.

For Plants and Wildlife

All of our green spaces help to bring nature to your doorstep. Take time out to listen to the birdsong, learn some tree species, enjoy the beauties of the different seasons and watch the treetop bats on a summer's evening. Did you know that there are five nature reserves in Bedford?



Look after your play areas

- No dogs in play areas please - the only exceptions are guide dogs.
- No glass in play areas.
- Please look after the play equipment - it's there for everyone.
- Bullying and foul or abusive language is unacceptable.
- Please leave plants and flowers for others to enjoy.
- Please report any vandalism or graffiti to the Borough Council Helpdesk on 0800 121 8888.
- Vandalism and graffiti spoil other people's enjoyment and cost money to make good.
- Litter is an eyesore and can be dangerous to children and wildlife. Please use the bins or take it home with you - it's just as easy as dropping it. Remember that littering is a criminal offence.

Leave the park as you find it

We've all heard of the Countryside Code, the Highway Code or even the Green Cross Code!

All of these have been designed to help us to enjoy ourselves responsibly and safely in different places. Your green spaces can be similar to the countryside or roads - sometimes busy, conflicts are possible and unthinking or poor behaviour can cause offence or danger to other people.



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