



## FAQs

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## **What is Hullabaloo in the Park?**

Hullabaloo in the Park is a free fun-filled outdoor family festival packed to the brim with wonderful things for families to see, make and do together. Taking place in Darlington's beautiful South Park from Friday 26<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024, the festival offers a mixture of fantastic activities from live performance to messy play, storytelling to crawl through wonders, audio adventures to crafting – and even a Wonderland Walk! Ideally suited for your little bugs and beasties aged 0-10 years and all their family and friends, Hullabaloo in the Park is an explosion of fun and creativity for everyone to enjoy.

## **Who is it for?**

Hullabaloo in the Park is aimed at children aged 10 years and younger and their families. Everyone is welcome to attend, there will be a lot of activities to drop in on the day and wonderful surprises around every corner.

## **When is Hullabaloo in the Park?**

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July – Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## **What time should I arrive?**

The overall festival times are below:

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July – 10.30am until 4.30pm

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July – 10.30am until 4.30pm

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July – 10.30am until 4.30pm

If you are attending a specific event, we recommend arriving in a timely manner for any with specific time slots, ideally 15 minutes beforehand to allow enough time to find which space the activity is taking place in.

## **What happens if I am late?**

If you do arrive late to an event, see our Hullabaloo in the Park staff who will advise if it's okay to enter the space. You may have to wait until an appropriate point in the show to avoid too much disruption. Our events are all free this year but some areas will have a limit on capacity.

As a guide, it takes approximately 10 minutes to walk from the main Information Point at the Parkside Entrance (near the white Clocktower) to the Victoria Embankment Entrance, although this might be longer with little legs and via a step-free route.

## **Where is South Park and how do I get there?**

South Park is in Darlington and is a grade II registered historic park. There are several entrances to the park, the main entrance is on Parkside (use postcode DL1 5TG) (What three words: pink.hulk.quick). There will be an Information Point near this entrance where you can get all of the information you need about the festival. The Parkside entrance is the best entrance to use for the festival.

There is another entrance near Victoria Embankment (use postcode DL1 5JS). (What three words: trunk.speeds.font). There will be a festival information point in this area with a team member to help if you have any questions.

*Wherever possible we encourage families to walk on foot, cycle, use public transport or car share to attend the festival.*

## **Directions**

### **Road**

Use the postcodes above to direct you to the most appropriate entrance.

### **Train**

It's easy to get to South Park from Darlington railway station; use the Victoria Road Exit at the train station; walk from the station, down Victoria Road then left down Victoria Embankment. You can then follow the signs up towards South Park café where you will see the main Hullabaloo in the Park Hub.

### **Bus**

South Park is accessible by bus - for more information please visit [Traveline North East](https://travelinenortheast.info/) [external link] <https://travelinenortheast.info/>

### **Cycling**

There are cycle paths linking from the town centre through Polam Lane onto South Park. Cyclists can access most areas of the park as usual, however we ask cyclists not to cycle in the play area or the main bowling green.

## **Where can I park?**

There is limited car parking around South Park so we have organised a dedicated festival car park just around the corner at Darlington Rugby Club, Grange Rd, Darlington DL1 5NR. (What3Words: insist.city.waddle). For just £5 a day you can park your car and then access the park via the Parkside entrance.

There will be a security team at the car park but Theatre Hullabaloo assume no responsibility for loss or damage to personal property. The security team will be in attendance from 10am-5pm.

Upon arrival a car park attendant will ask to see your booking confirmation on your phone and then you will be able to choose a car parking space.

[Please follow this link to book your car parking.](#)

If this car park is full we recommend you use the [town centre car parks](#) and access the park by foot through Victoria Embankment. There will be an Information Point in this area or you can walk to the Information Point near the clock tower / café area. Both Information Points will have festival maps and details on what's on each day.

### **Disabled parking**

Blue badge holders should follow the usual guidelines around parking, and it is the responsibility of the badge holder to park appropriately.

There are some disabled parking spaces the Parkside Entrance to the park.

As a blue badge holder you may be entitled to park on the double yellow lines outside of all entrances to South Park providing there are no loading restrictions in that area, allowing you to park here for up to 3 hours when displaying the timeclock and badge. Blue badge holders cannot park in loading/unloading bays.

### **Accessible toilets**

South Park and all of the permanent facilities within it are managed by Darlington Borough Council. This includes the toilets and café. There is one ungendered accessible toilet in this toilet block and you may need a key from the café to access this.

In addition to the toilets provided by the council, there will be a portaloos available for festival go-ers, including a wheelchair accessible toilet. These toilets will be towards the Victoria Embankment entrance. See the map for more information.

The nearest 'Changing Place' toilet is situated on the ground floor at the Dolphin Centre which is within Darlington's Market Square.

### **Will there be food and drinks available?**

We have a fantastic range of food and drink vendors to suit everybody's taste buds! You'll be able to enjoy tasty treats from: Flippin Fantastic, Wonderful Whippy, Pizza Geeks, Phat Pigs, Habibi Come, Dawn Woodliffe, Overhead Pizza, Tribe Street Coffee, Xclusive Catering, Another One Bites the Dutch, The Waffle Co and Falafal Fella. These are located down in Zone 3 at Victoria Embankment.

On the festival map you will see two Family Picnic Areas where you're welcome to join us for a little break from all the fun. Bring your own picnic or buy whatever you like from the café or from food stalls on site, and join us on the grass down near the

embankment entrance. If you are bringing your own picnic, please do not bring any glass as broken glass is very dangerous for children and animals using the park.

We will have a few blankets and mats to sit on, or you might like to bring your own. It's up to you.

South Park has a café that is run by Darlington Borough Council, situated by the bowling green. The café is open 10am - 5pm Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm on Saturday and 9am-5pm on Sunday. There will be a range of hot and cold drinks, sandwiches, snacks and ice-creams available daily.

**Please note: you will not be able to take any hot drinks into a baby show for safety reasons.**

Unfortunately, we do not have access to a waterpoint to enable you to refill water bottles so please make sure you have plenty with you. South park Café should be able to help you with this though.

**Where do I need to go when I arrive? / is there a festival information point?**

If you have your map and know which stage you need to be at for the activity, you can go straight there. Alternatively, if you need to pick up a map or ask for further information on where things are, you can head to either of our Information Points. There is one based at the Parkside entrance and one at the Victoria Embankment entrance.

**Do I need tickets?**

You do not need a ticket to enter the park or enter the festival site.

Some of our Neurodivergent friendly sessions will have bookable spaces. These are free tickets but will allow us to ensure we can provide for the needs of each individual family attending. To book a place for these sessions, [please visit the show pages on our website](#). There is more information on neurodivergent friendly sessions in our [Access Guide which can be found here](#).

**Will Hullabaloo in the Park still go ahead in bad weather?**

Hullabaloo in the Park is an outdoor festival, so please expect the Great British Summertime and prepare accordingly. So, think umbrellas and raincoats as well as suncream and sun hats!

In the event of undesirable weather which means it is unsafe for events to proceed, for example heavy rain or strong winds, we will try to relocate performances and events to the structures we have on site, however some events may be cancelled.

Updates will be posted on our social media pages so make sure you have these notifications turned on.

### **What if I don't feel well?**

If you become unwell, inform our dedicated Hullabaloo in the Park staff in brightly coloured orange t-shirts and they will be on hand to offer assistance. We have qualified medics on site to provide first aid immediate response. They are located near the Victoria Embankment entrance.

### **Can I bring my dog?**

No dogs are allowed in our event unless they are assistance dogs. However, the festival does take place in a public park so there will be members of the public there who may have dogs with them.

### **Assistant Dogs**

Assistant dogs are welcome across the whole the festival. If you need any more information on potential triggers for an assistant dog (food, puppets, loud noises), please see a member of the festival staff team or contact us in advance by emailing [info@theatrehullabaloo.org.uk](mailto:info@theatrehullabaloo.org.uk) or calling us on 01325 405680. Please note that this number will not be monitored during the festival dates, instead please call or message our access phone number **07946 072131**

### **Accessing the festival**

#### **Is South Park wheelchair accessible?**

All of the performance spaces ("stages") are wheelchair accessible. There are concrete paths all the way around the park and there will be plastic flooring on any grassed areas needed to access activity.

The accessible step-free routes (for wheelchairs and buggies) have been identified on the Festival Map but if you are unsure, just ask one of our lovely festival staff members and they can assist you. It may take longer to use the step-free routes around the park, so you may need to allow for a little extra time to arrive for a performance or activity.

#### **Is the park buggy/pushchair friendly?**

All of the performance spaces ("stages") are accessible to buggies. There are concrete paths all the way around the park and there will be plastic flooring on any grassed areas needed to access activity by buggies and wheelchairs.

The accessible step-free routes (for wheelchairs and buggies) have been identified on the Festival Map but if you are unsure, just ask one of our lovely festival staff members and they can assist you. It may take longer to use the step-free routes around the park, so you may need to allow for a little extra time to arrive for a performance or activity.

When taking part in activities or watching a performance there will be a dedicated space to leave any buggies, however, we recommend always keeping any valuables with you as you will be responsible for keeping them safe.

### **I have other questions around access and inclusion, how can I find out more?**

[We have an Access Guide to the festival available here.](#)

There will be a designated Festival Access Phonenumber you can call between 9am and 6pm across the festival dates (Friday 26, Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 July 2024) as well as the day before.

**This phone number is 07946 072131**

You can call us, text us or WhatsApp us on this number and we will respond between 9am and 6pm, Thursday 25 – Sunday 28 July 2024.

**Before the festival** - You can also email us at [info@theatrehullabaloo.org.uk](mailto:info@theatrehullabaloo.org.uk) but please note this email address will not be checked on the festival dates.

### **What Facilities are available at South Park, Darlington?**

South Park is managed by Darlington Borough Council and they offer a number of facilities outside of the festival context

The park is open 24 hours a day all year round.

Toilets (including one accessible toilet) are open from 9:00 until 18:00 and are situated near the White Clock Tower.

There is also a Café at the park offering hot and cold drinks, light snacks and bottle/baby food warming facilities.

The Café is open Monday to Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday and Sunday 9am - 5pm

In addition to this, dedicated Hullabaloo in the Park staff will be on hand to offer assistance where needed, just look out for the brightly coloured orange t – shirts!

## **How to contact us**

**Before the festival-** If you have any questions or queries regarding Hullabaloo in the Park before the week of the festival, we can be contacted on our usual email address [info@theatrehullabaloo.org.uk](mailto:info@theatrehullabaloo.org.uk) and phone number 01325 405680.

**During the festival -** Our social media pages will be monitored as usual during the festival so feel free to message us on there. Please note that these pages are only monitored between 9am and 6pm each day so if you message us outside of this time, you won't get an immediate response.

Most of the Hullabaloo team will be at the festival so you can always find us there!