

BECK CORRIDOR CIRCUIT WALK CARD 6: LANGLEY CIRCUIT

CIRCUIT



Links with Walk 3 of Beck Corridor Trail

Accessibility

It is suggested that this route is not used at the start and end of the school day, when part of it is bustling with students. Circuit is 3.7km (2.3 miles) long and lies on level to gently sloping ground. Route is on firm ground, including paved and tarmac paths, with drop kerbs at the majority of drive/road junctions.

Route generally suitable for pushchairs, though is uneven along parts of

Hawksbrook Lane. It is suggested that wheelchair users specifically visit Blake Recreation Ground to enjoy the green space there. Limitations

of using the full walk for wheelchair users are: footpath from Cavendish Way has bollards that narrow path entrances; Hawksbrook Lane is uneven and would require some use of the uneven road way; footways by the schools are narrow, uneven and without drop kerbs; a 'walk-through' gap by a gate close by one of the schools is too narrow for wheelchairs. Some seats in Blake Recreation Ground. No public toilets occur along route.

Walk 6

At the junction of Monks Orchard Road and Wickham Road, on the Beck Corridor Trail, turn left to walk along Wickham Road over the tree-lined River Beck, to the junction with Cavendish Way. Cross over Cavendish Way and follow the public footpath sign (between Cavendish Way and Manor Park Road). **1** Cross over Cavendish Way and follow the public footpath (between Cavendish Way and Manor Park Road) straight ahead, crossing over two quiet roads. Enter Blake Recreation Ground, which was opened in 1932. This green space includes some old oak trees and clumps of pine trees. Follow the path and where it comes parallel with another to the right, take this to follow the left-hand side of the park.



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▷ On approaching the far corner of the park, take the path to the right. Listen out for birds in the hedge alongside. Continue straight on, passing the play area to your right. You exit by a gate. Turn left along Ravenswood Crescent. Continue until you reach the crossroads. Using the pedestrian crossing, cross over Beckenham Road and head down Red Lodge Road. Once over the railway bridge, continue straight on along Red Lodge Road, passing a roundabout to your right. The shared footway/cycle route you use bisects Langley Park Golf Club.

2 Here you will see some large, ancient oak trees by the road. The golf course includes ponds, springs and oak woodland, including bluebells, uncommon wetland plants, dragonflies and frogs. Look out for jays. There is some reference in ancient texts to a property in the Park Langley area as early as 862AD. This came into the hands of the Langley family in 1350. The original Tudor mansion associated with the parkland was destroyed by



fire in 1913. The site is now occupied by the clubhouse. In 1820, Langley Farm's 250 acres was purchased at auction by Emmanuel Goodhouse and included a number of buildings; only 'The Chapel' remains. Part of the estate was sold in 1884 to J.L. Bucknall who built the present 'Mansion House' in 1886 on the site of the old estate farmhouse. Continue walking. Some distance later, to the left you will see a no through road, Hawksbrook Lane, to your left. Turn left here, taking care of byway traffic.

3 The ancient boundary between the parishes of Beckenham and West Wickham crosses here. A number of buildings in the surrounding area were built by H & G Taylor, a Lewisham company, on land acquired from the Goodharts in 1908. Follow the byway, passing the golf course and playing fields. When you see school buildings and a track (called St. Dunstan's Lane) ahead of you, turn left, passing between the metal bollards.



(You may wish to take a temporary diversion along St. Dunstan's Lane to catch a glimpse of the river and associated bankside trees and woodland). Soon the route passes beside a gate and you see school buildings and a pond to your right and playing fields to your left. Carry straight on, using the footway to the right hand side of the lane. Just after passing over the river, you reach South Eden Park Road.

4 Cross over to the other side of Hawksbrook Lane and continue straight on along South Eden Park Road and under the railway bridge. As the road bears round to the left, use the pedestrian island ahead of you to cross over. You have now met up with the Beck Corridor Trail at its junction with Monks Orchard Road. □

