

## Primary School wetland nature reserve

Towards the end of the wooded school perimeter path heading east you will see on the right the new wetland nature reserve being created by the Environment Group. The hollows in the ground are called scrapes and they are designed to fill and empty with water after heavy rainfall as the water table rises and falls.

The scrapes occupy the site of the high jump court formerly used by children from the school when it was a Middle School. To the right almost out of view is a newly created pond. It occupies the site of the old long jump landing pit.



This has been fitted with a rubber pond liner so water will be retained all year round providing a habitat for fully aquatic wildlife.

The Environment Group together with the school children are gradually planting native wetland and pond edge species, such as yellow flag (*Iris pseudocarus*), meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*), kingcup (*Caltha palustris*) and purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) in and around the scrapes. It is hoped that in coming years the plants will spread and the reserve will attract birds, frogs, newts and dragonflies as well as pollinating insects such as bees, butterflies and moths.