

# Christmas on the Cobbles



## Visual Story

# What happens at Christmas on the Cobbles?



There are two main parts of Christmas on the Cobbles.

The daytime activities are from 1pm until 5pm, where there are lots of rides, games, crafts and activities across the town centre, all for free.

Then, in the early evening, there is a busy, loud and fun light parade which ends with fireworks.

I don't have to go to all the parts,  
I can choose which bits I go to.

# What happens at the daytime activities?

## Market Square - Entertainers



There are entertainers performing all afternoon.  
They are different each year.  
Shows last about 25 minutes.  
I can stand and watch for as long as I would like.

There are also people in film costumes walking around,  
I can have my picture taken with them if I would like to.

# What happens at the daytime activities?

## Market Square - Snowball Arena



**Christmas**  
on the  
**Cobbles**

ENTIRELY  
FREE

### Snowball Arena Rules

- The Snowball Arena is open to all ages
- Maximum of 30 people permitted in the arena per session
- Children remain the responsibility of parents / guardians while playing in the arena
- Care must be taken when using the arena, taking part is at your own risk
- Sessions are 10 minutes long, a whistle will be blown at the start and end of the session
- Snowball pom-poms are the only items that can be thrown
- All instructions given by event staff and volunteers must be followed
- Please return Snowballs to the storage container at the end of the session
- The exit must be used to leave the arena
- Any rule breakers will be asked to leave
- Have fun!



I will have to wait my turn to play in the snowball arena.

The play sessions last for 10 minutes.

The Event Crew will say when I can go in and when I must come out.

It can get noisy and busy in here and I must follow the rules.

My parents or carers can ask for a 'gentle session', where there will be less people who will be asked to be calm.

# What happens at the daytime activities?

## Kingsbury



There are lots of fun fair rides, which are free.

It can get very busy and noisy here and I will have to wait my turn.

The queues can be quite long, I might have to wait between 15-45 minutes for each ride.

The rides change each year.

# What happens at the daytime activities?

## Friars Square Shopping Centre



I can play the games.

I can make the crafts and take what I make home with me.

I can sit on the floor and watch the funny show,  
there will be bits where I can join in and shout out answers.

There are also fun entertainers that  
walk around in festive outfits.

# What happens at the daytime activities?

## Friars Square Shopping Centre Lantern workshop



To make a lantern, we must book a space before the event.  
The workshop takes place upstairs above House of Fraser.

Everyone who makes a lantern can walk in the  
light parade in the evening.

Lantern making can get quite messy.

# Where can I get quiet space during the daytime activities?



There is a special place that I can go, if everything gets too much for me. Here I can play with the toys and feel calm.

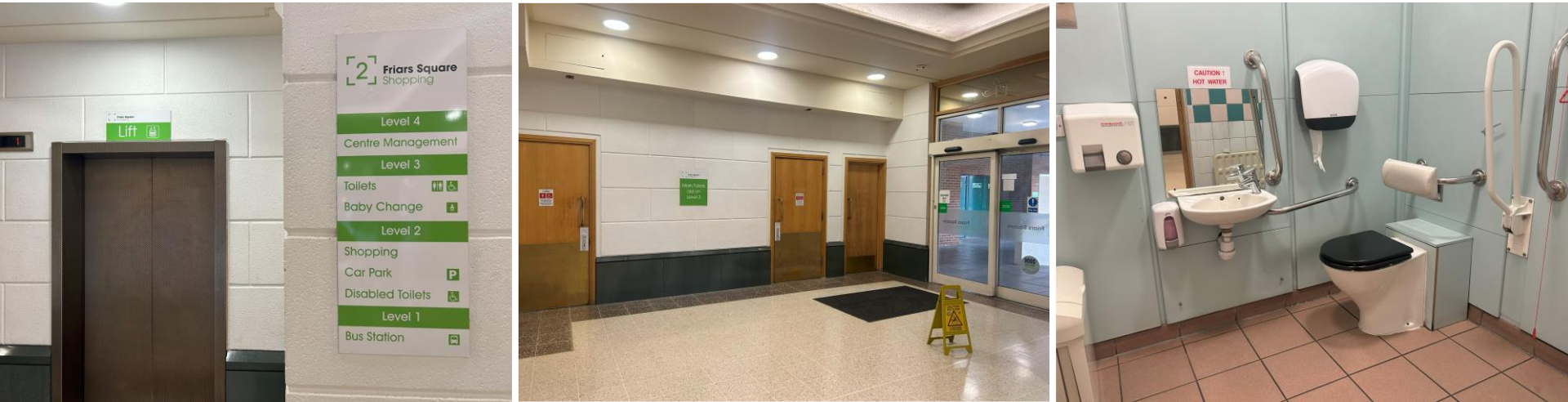
I will find it beside New Look in Friars Square.

They have lots of great things for me to do.

The people who work here can talk to me in sign language.



# Where are the toilets?



There are toilets in the shopping centres and restaurants.  
There are no temporary event toilets.

In Friars Square Shopping Centre,  
the main public toilets are on the third floor.

There are larger disabled toilets on the second and third floors.  
These are locked with a RADAR key  
which I can borrow from the Meeting Point.

# What happens at the light parade?

When should I get there?



People start to wait from about 5pm. The light parade starts at 5:30pm.

The sky will be dark, and it can get rather cold, so I must wrap up warm.

There will be lots of people watching the parade and it will get very crowded, with lots of people standing very close to each other.

I must stay with my family and friends,  
and listen to the instructions of the parade stewards,  
who keep us all safe.

# What happens at the light parade?

What do I do if it feels too busy and crowded?



There is a special viewing area at the front close to the lion statues.  
I will be able to see the countdown well from here,  
but it will be very noisy.

If I need more space I can stand in the middle of Market Square,  
but I won't be able to see everyone in the parade.

The best view of the fireworks is from the back of Market Square  
by The Works and War Memorial.

# What happens in the light parade?



Everyone in the parade walks slowly around Market Square twice.

There will be bands who walk and play music, they will be very loud.

There are children and adults in bright and fun costumes, they will be waving, smiling and some will sing.

Everyone in the parade likes it when I wave and cheer as they go past, especially Santa Claus.

# When are the fireworks?



At the end of the parade, funny people will stand on the big steps to entertain everyone for 10 minutes. I can join in the words and dance actions if I would like.

All the crowd will count backwards from 10 down to zero. This is rather loud.

When we all get to zero, the tree light decorations will come on and fireworks will go off above the big building.

They last for about seven minutes.

# Will I need any money?



There are some market stalls, where I can buy different things.

They will take cash and card payments.

All the shops will be open in the daytime.

At the parade there will be flashing things to buy.

All the rides, games, crafts, activities and shows are free,  
I don't need to pay for any of these.

# What do I do if I need help?



I can ask the people in green t-shirts or coats if I need any help.  
These people are called the Event Crew and are very kind.

The people wearing the special sunflower lanyards will be able to help me do all the things I would like too.

# Who else can help me?



There will be lots of parade stewards.  
They all wear hi-vis jackets. They are there to keep us all safe.

Security people and parade stewards will always help me,  
I just have to ask.



# What special things are available for me?



There are ear defenders I can borrow.  
They need a £10 deposit, which I get back when I return them.

There are special bands I can wear on my wrist,  
we can write an emergency contact number on them.  
These can help me, and my parents feel safe.

All of these are available at the Meeting Point  
which during the day is inside Friars Square  
and during the parade it's at the top of the High Street.

# What do I do if I need some space during the parade?



Because the parade and fireworks only lasts for about 45 minutes, there isn't a quiet space for me to play.

But I can go to the Meeting Point, where there will be less people and it's a little bit calmer.

# Daytime map 1-5pm



Friars Square shopping centre  
Games, crafts, activities,  
entertainers and shows

Quiet Zone

Snowball  
Arena

Kingsbury  
Fun fair rides


Clock  
tower

Entertainment

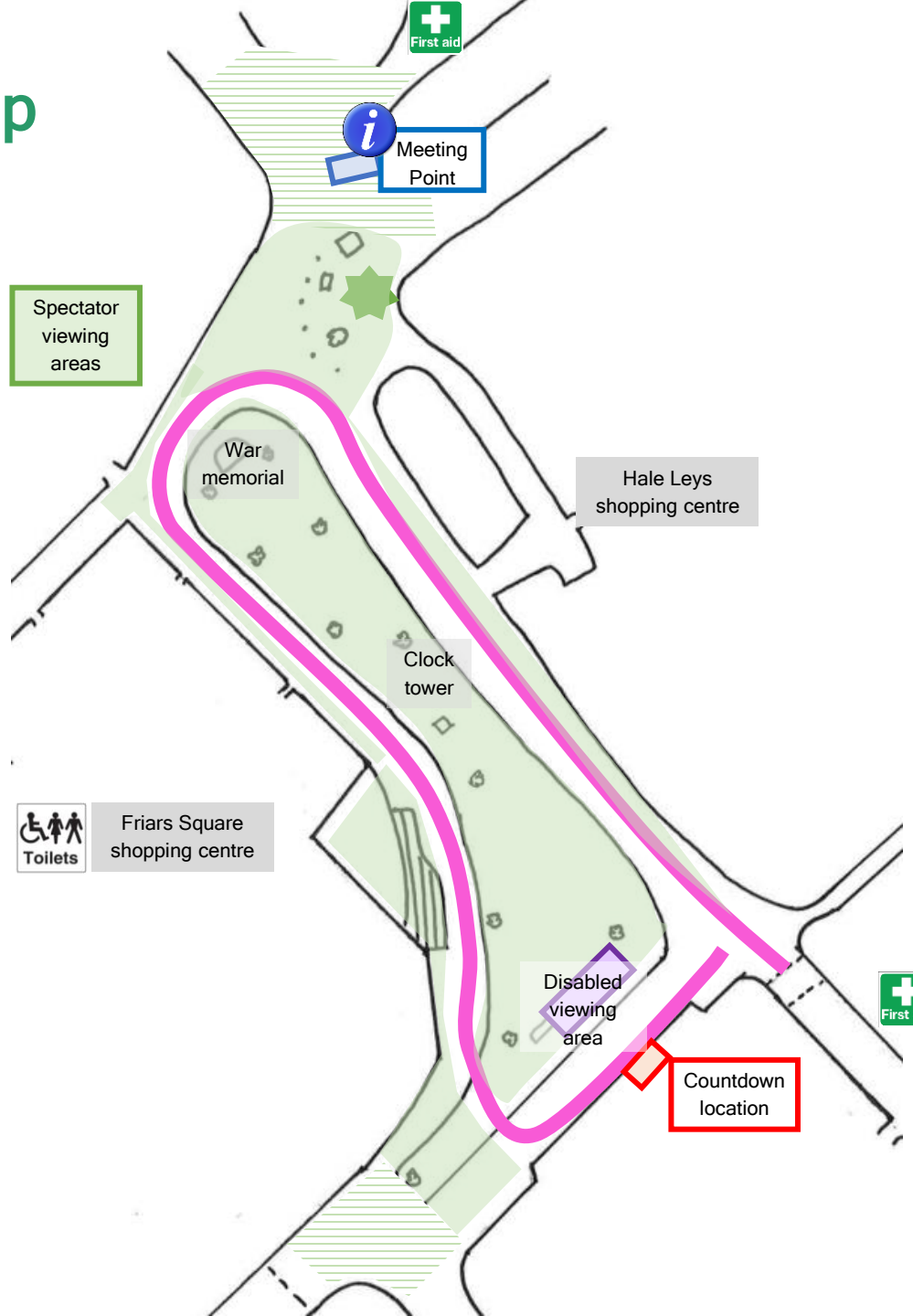
High St.  
Market  
Stalls

Hale Leys  
shopping centre

 6 Blue Badge bays  
Waterside North

 50 Blue Badge bays (inc extras)  
Exchange St.

# Parade map



You can stand anywhere that is shaded green on this map.

The pink line is the parade route.

It will be most crowded beside the parade route.

The disabled viewing area will have the best view of the countdown and will be noisy with a restricted view of the fireworks.

Close to the war memorial will have the best view of the fireworks, but limited view of the countdown performance.