



**Key**

- Wellesley Willow Trail – 9.4km
- Sycamore Trail – 1.1km
- Footpath
- Access Point
- Parking



**Welcome to Lake & Canal Side**

This part of Wellesley Woodlands supports a variety of wildlife and provides a range of areas in which to walk. Previously used as a military assault course you can still see remnants along the trails. Wellesley Willow Trail runs through the complete length of Lake & Canal Side, leading to Duke's Wood and in the future will connect all four sections of Wellesley Woodlands. To the east of the area, it offers the 1.1km circular Sycamore Trail through wooded areas around the large freshwater lakes of Chalk Farm, an ideal spot to stop and enjoy a family picnic. A higher level route allows for some spectacular views across the lakes and provide plenty of opportunity to watch the abundant birdlife in and around the water.

The canal towpath runs alongside the Basingstoke Canal and links many of the different trails within Wellesley Woodlands. The canal is a key feature of this area and was built to connect Basingstoke with the River Thames in 1794. It is of unique ecological importance and is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Other interesting features are also present and include the Iron Bridge that carries Queens Avenue across the canal. Information relating to this, and other interest features, is available on interpretation boards throughout Wellesley Woodlands

**WELLESLEY WOODLANDS**

This attractive area forms part of Wellesley and offers 110 hectares of interlinked woodlands, wildlife, canal-side walks and lakes. Delivered by Grainger, the woodlands are managed by the Land Trust, a national land management charity, along with the Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership.

A Natural Partnership

