

The Education Garden at Southwell Minster

The Minster, the cathedral of Nottinghamshire, is nearly a thousand years old in parts but our Education Garden, where the fair is held, is relatively young having been started in 2013. Nestled under the gable end of the medieval ruins of the Archbishop of York's Palace, it has planting areas evocative of the heritage timeline of the Palace.

There is, for example, a Herb Parterre which contains plants used in Roman Gardens – a Roman villa lies under the present garden. By the entrance, we are creating a Knot Garden which alludes to Cardinal Wolsey's stay at the Palace in 1530 and, very popular with younger visitors, there is a Labyrinth. During the medieval period the labyrinth symbol reflected the complexities of faith, life and philosophy in the mind. Labyrinths differ from mazes as it consists of a single pathway, the only decision you have is to enter and trust the path! A "Hot Border" alludes (tangentially!) to the vibrant colours of the court of Charles I. The King spent his initial moments of final captivity at the Palace.

For further information please see our websites
(www.archbishopspalacesouthwell.org.uk)



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