

LEMINGTON PROFILE

Lemington is situated near the western edges of Newcastle upon Tyne. It covers an area bounded by the A69 to the North, the River Tyne to the South, the A1 to the East and Hospital Lane to the West. Lemington Ward has a population of around 10,000. The original "Lemington Village" is situated closest to the river and is typified by early 20th century two up, two down terraced housing. These tend to be privately owned or rented.

The remainder of the Ward is a mixture of private housing and areas of council housing.

The "village" includes a small parade of shops, a lively community centre and health centre accommodated together in a purpose-built facility, erected about 10 years ago. The village is home to three Churches - Holy Saviour Parish Church (C of E), the Methodist Chapel and St George's RC Church. Lemington Riverside Primary School, over 100 years old, is also situated in the village, as is St George's RC primary school. Waverley School, the third primary school in Lemington, is situated in the NE quadrant of the Ward and serves children from the newer housing in that area. Lemington Riverside Primary School is a founder member of the Outer West Learning Trust and we have strong links with eight other schools in this part of the city.

Lemington has a strong community spirit and a largely settled population with a comparatively low level of "churn" (moves in and out of the area). Families tend to stay in Lemington for generations. Many of the children attending Lemington Riverside Primary School have parents who also attended. A few also have grandparents and great grandparents who attended.

Lemington has a strong industrial history. It is famous for its brick glassworks cone, built in 1787. The River Tyne used to pass very close to Lemington, until the Tyne Improvement Commission cut a new, shorter, straighter channel over the Blaydon Haugh, leaving behind the Lemington Gut. Also visible are the ruins of the former Tyne Iron Company Ironworks which were built in 1797 and decommissioned in 1886. Its coke ovens are still evident near Lemington Power Station. The power station was built in 1903 to supply the tram system with electricity. It was largely demolished in 1946. The remains of Lemington Staithes can be seen on the Lemington Gut near the power station. The staithes used to mark the end of the North Wylam to Lemington Point waggonway, which took coal from the local collieries to the staithes for export. On 12 July 1875 Lemington Station opened on the Scotswood, Newburn & Wylam Railway. On 15 September 1958 the station closed to passengers and on 4 January 1960 the station was closed to goods, but the lines weren't lifted until 1992, when the Ever Ready battery factory in Newburn closed. The Anglo Great Lakes Graphite Plant which operated in the area, also closed around this time.

Employment in the area is now provided in the Business Park and the Trading Estate - both located south of the residential areas, on the riverbank - as well as further afield in Newcastle, across the river in Blaydon, Dunston and the wider Gateshead area.

The strong community spirit enables Lemington to hold its own Festival in July, in which many of the local organisations including our school participate, and ecumenical services at Christmas and Easter in the Community Centre.