

NEC Car Parking Update

Paid Parking Events where exhibitors are entitled to free parking during build and break down only

PARK WITH EASE: NEW IMPROVEMENTS TO YOUR NEC EXPERIENCE

We're pleased to share that the NEC is investing £1.5 million to improve your event parking experience. From December 2025, a new hybrid ANPR-enabled barrier system will be in place to help streamline the parking process. Whilst it means there will be a few changes to how you park, we're here to help make that transition smooth and simple. **Exhibitors will continue to enjoy free parking during build and break down but you will now need to validate your parking before returning to the car park. During the open period for your event, NEC car parking charges apply.**

NEED TO KNOW

- Please note, there is no change to the current build and break down process when using the lorry park to enter the inner area to load or offload. However, if you park in the NEC visitor car parks, you will need to validate your free parking during the build and break down periods.

VALIDATION PROCESS - Build and Break Down:

- In order to benefit from your **free parking during build**, you will need to validate your parking by entering your vehicle registration and scanning your Voyage Control QR code at any pay-on-foot machine in the venue or at the car park exit barrier. However, please be aware that **overstays beyond 2:00am** will incur additional charges.
- No Voyage Control pass? Simply collect an NEC QR code from the lorry park team, venue security or our organiser team and validate at any pay-on-foot machine in the venue or at the car park exit barrier. The NEC QR code collected on site is valid for the duration of the build period.
- **For the break down**, there is no requirement to collect an NEC QR code or validate **if you are using the lorry park only**. However, a separate NEC QR code is required for the break down period, **if you are parking your vehicle in an NEC car park**.
- Unfortunately, if you don't validate your free parking, your vehicle won't be recognised at the exit barrier and the standard on the day rate will apply (card payment only).

OPEN DAYS BOOKING PROCESS:

- If you want to park at the venue during open days, we recommend **pre-booking** your parking via the NEC's [online portal](#) for the **best rates** and a smoother experience. It only takes a moment and **you can do it any time up until midnight** the day before your visit – just follow the handy How-to Guide below.

KEY BENEFITS

Effortless access

Your vehicle's number plate is recognised automatically, helping you move in and out quickly during busy periods.

Increased security

The system logs each entry and exit for peace of mind while you're parked at the venue.

Reliable and accurate

Your entry and exit times are recorded automatically to help ensure accurate and transparent tracking of your parking time.

HOW-TO GUIDE

Pre-book your Parking at the NEC

Please ensure you book in advance to get the best rates for your parking. To do this, visit:
<https://parking.thenec.co.uk/NECBirminghamexhBooking>

Please ensure you use the above URL for Exhibitors as opposed to the Visitor URL

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Book your parking". It has two dropdown menus: "Month of Event" set to "June 2025" and "Event" set to "BIRMINGHAM HIGHER EDUCATION 2025". Below these is a section "Please select your parking dates:" with two calendar views for June and July 2025. In the June calendar, the 23rd and 24th are selected. Below the calendars are three input fields: "Total No. of Days" (1), "No. of Vehicles" (1), and "Hall No." (9). There is a "Promo code?" link and a "Get Prices" button at the bottom.

June 2025							July 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

1. Select the month and then our event from the dropdown list.
2. Select the date(s) you need parking for and whether you require single or multiple days.
3. If you select more than one consecutive day, overnight parking will be offered. If your vehicle will remain onsite beyond 2:00 AM, select 'Overnight Parking' to avoid overstay charges.
4. Select our Hall Number.
5. Click 'Get Prices'.
6. Select your parking product or upgrade if this interests you (please note overnight parking is not available on upgrades).
7. Enter your details and vehicle registration number.
8. Press 'Book Now'.

Your booking is now complete. An email confirmation will be sent to you.

If you need to make any changes ahead of our event, simply use the 'Manage my Booking' link in your confirmation email - amendments can be made right up until midnight the day before your arrival.

Full parking terms and conditions can be found [here](#).

DIDN'T PRE-BOOK?

- If you haven't pre-booked, you can still pay on the day at any **pay-on-foot machine in the venue** or by using the **on-the-day online portal**. Please note that if you're planning to use the **on-the-day online portal**, you can only do so once you've parked up in the car park.
- Please note that if you don't make payment before proceeding to the exit, your vehicle won't be recognised and you will be required to pay the standard on the day rate at the exit barrier (card payment only).