

[Help](#)

# Category:Southern Province Chalk nomenclature - Grey Chalk Subgroup

From Earthwise

[Jump to navigation](#) [Jump to search](#)

## Contents

- [1 Name](#)
- [2 Type section](#)
- [3 Primary reference section](#)
- [4 Formal subdivisions](#)
- [5 Lithology](#)
- [6 Definition of upper boundary](#)
- [7 Definition of lower boundary](#)
- [8 Thickness](#)
- [9 Distribution](#)
- [10 Previous names](#)
- [11 Parent](#)
- [12 Age and biostratigraphy](#)
- [13 References](#)

### Name

First proposed in Rawson et al. (2001) as part of the agreed standard for the Chalk Group of England.

### Type section

None defined for the whole subgroup. Full succession visible under favourable conditions in the Isle of Wight and on the Kent coast around Folkestone in the Southern Province where the constituent formations have their type sections. Can be considered as defined by reference to the type sections of the Ferriby Chalk Formation in the Northern Province.

### Primary reference section

The coastal section between Copt Point, Folkestone [TR 242 365] and Hay Cliff [TR 301 394] including Abbots Cliff path [TR 268 385] in the Southern Province as discussed in Robinson (1986).

Speeton Cliffs [TA 162 752 to TA 192 744] (Wright, 1968; Mitchell, 1995a) in Northern Province.

### Formal subdivisions

Divided in the Southern Province into the west Melbury Marly Chalk Formation and the Zig Zag Chalk Formation as defined herein. Is coextensive with the Ferriby Chalk Formation of the Northern Province.

## **Lithology**

Clayey ('marly') chalk without flint. The Lower part comprises limestone/marl 'couplets' equivalent to the West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation in the Southern Province. Upper part distinctly less 'marly' with notable calc-arenite beds and is equivalent to the Zig Zag Chalk Formation of the Southern Province. The Ferriby Formation of the Northern Province is the lateral equivalent of the Grey Chalk Subgroup and comprises grey, soft, marly, flint-free chalk, typically weathering buff in exposures; locally includes pinkish bands; some harder, gritty, shell-debris-rich beds, and thin discrete marl seams.

### **Definition of upper boundary**

Conformable at the highest bedding plane beneath the lowest bed of the Plenus Marls Member of the Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation in the Southern Province and the Welton Chalk Formation in the Northern Province. (Note that the Plenus Marls Member is now considered as part of the overlying subgroup thus providing a consistent datum throughout the Chalk Group of England and the North Sea).

### **Definition of lower boundary**

Unconformable, set at the burrowed erosion surface marking the base of the Cenomanian. In the Southern Province this marks the distinct change from chalk-free to chalk-rich sediment. In the Northern Province the boundary is at an erosion surface between the Ferriby and Hunstanton formations.

### **Thickness**

Variable, generally between 45 and 90 m in Southern Province. Is equivalent to the 30m or so of the Ferriby Chalk Formation of the Northern Province.

### **Distribution**

The Subgroup is known throughout the onshore outcrops in England and offshore in the Southern, Central and Northern North Sea areas. In the Northern Province the term Ferriby Chalk Formation is analogous.

### **Previous names**

Equivalent in part to the Lower Chalk (with the exception of the Plenus Marls Member) of the traditional scheme in the Southern and Northern Provinces; to the Ferriby Chalk Formation of Woods and Smith (1978), and most of the Lower Chalk Formation of Bristow et al. (1997). Equivalent to the Hydra or Swarte Formations in the Central and Northern North Sea Basins respectively.

### **Parent**

Chalk Group.

### **Age and biostratigraphy**

Upper Cretaceous, Cenomanian. *Mantelliceras mantelli* to *Calycoceras guerangeri* Zones.

### **References**

Subgroup first defined herein, with the term-only published in Rawson et al., 2001.

## Pages in category ‘Southern Province Chalk nomenclature - Grey Chalk Subgroup’

The following 3 pages are in this category, out of 3 total.

- [Southern Province Chalk nomenclature - Grey Chalk Subgroup:West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation](#)
- [Southern Province Chalk nomenclature - Grey Chalk Subgroup:Zig Zag Chalk Formation](#)
- [Southern Province Chalk nomenclature - Grey Chalk Subgroup:Beer Head Limestone Formation](#)

Retrieved from

[‘http://earthwise.bgs.ac.uk/index.php?title=Category:Southern\\_Province\\_Chalk\\_nomenclature\\_-\\_Grey\\_Chalk\\_Subgroup&oldid=6988’](http://earthwise.bgs.ac.uk/index.php?title=Category:Southern_Province_Chalk_nomenclature_-_Grey_Chalk_Subgroup&oldid=6988)

Category:

- [Southern Province Chalk nomenclature - Chalk group](#)

## Navigation menu

### Personal tools

- Not logged in
- [Talk](#)
- [Contributions](#)
- [Log in](#)
- [Request account](#)

### Namespaces

- [Category](#)
- [Discussion](#)

### Variants

### Views

- [Read](#)
- [View source](#)
- [View history](#)
- [PDF Export](#)

## More

## Search

## Navigation

- [Main page](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Random page](#)
- [Help about MediaWiki](#)

## Tools

- [What links here](#)
- [Related changes](#)
- [Special pages](#)
- [Permanent link](#)
- [Page information](#)
- [Browse properties](#)

• This page was last modified on 11 February 2015, at 18:14.

- [Privacy policy](#)
- [About Earthwise](#)
- [Disclaimers](#)

