

# Southern Region Chalk Group

## Lithostratigraphy: Bristow et al. (1997) - Studland Chalk

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The Studland Chalk (stratotype: Studland Bay [SZ 055 825 to SZ 045 824] ) was defined by Gale *et al.* (1987), and comprises soft, marl-free chalk with large, irregularly developed flints (Bristow *et al.*, 1997). Up to 23 m are preserved beneath the Tertiary erosion surface in the Isle of Wight, although coeval chalk in central Dorset was included in the top of the Portsdown Chalk by Bristow *et al.* (1997) because no mappable feature occurs to separate the two units. In coastal sections, the base of the Studland Chalk is immediately above a bed of marly chalk with an included marl seam, marking the top of the Portsdown Chalk *sensu* Gale *et al.* (1987) (Gale, unpublished data). The Studland Chalk is characterised by pink-shelled oysters, and similarly preserved brachiopods, especially *Magas chitoniformis* and *Cretirhynchia woodwardi* (Bristow *et al.*, 1997).

**Macrofossil Biozonation:** *B. mucronata* Zone (pars)

**Correlation:** see Correlation with other Southern Region successions

see Correlation with other UK successions

### References

**BRISTOW, C. R., MORTIMORE, R. N. & WOOD, C. J.** 1997. Lithostratigraphy for mapping the Chalk of southern England. *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association*, Vol. **108**, 293-315.

**GALE, A S, WOOD, C J & BROMLEY, R G.** 1987. The lithostratigraphy and marker bed correlation of the White Chalk (late Cenomanian-Campanian) in southern England. *Mesozoic Research*, Vol. **1**, 107-118.

See: Portsdown Chalk (Bristow *et al.*, 1997), marl, flint

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