



13th December 2018

Year 4 Residential 2019 (Current Year 3)

Venue: High Ashurst Outdoor Education Centre - Dorking, Surrey
Date: Monday 14th October – Tuesday 15th October 2019
Duration: 2 days, 1 night

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to inform you that Holly Lodge shall once again be providing a residential visit for our Year 4 pupils. After this year's successful trip, we have chosen to return to Surrey Outdoor Learning & Development (SOLD) near Dorking. We believe their venue at High Ashurst offers value for money, fantastic facilities, and a great location. The centre is only 1 hour away from school, so parents and pupils have the reassurance that they are not too far away from home, but will still enjoy a full residential experience.

Residential courses organised by the school are an invaluable part of school life. Pupils benefit hugely from the experience, both educationally and socially and I feel certain that the programme which we have chosen this year will prove to be both enjoyable and very worthwhile.

We would like to invite you to a parent's information afternoon on **Wednesday 9th January 2019 3:30pm - 4:00pm**, to explain more details and show you a presentation of the types of visits Surrey Outdoor Learning & Development have to offer. In the meantime, please visit:
<https://www.surreyoutdoorlearning.uk/facilities/high-ashurst>

The cost for the trip will be **£100.00** per child and the trip can only take place if parents agree to pay the full cost, which includes accommodation, transport by coach, insurance and the services of the centre's staff. If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals, please speak to the office as you may be eligible for assistance towards the cost of board and lodgings.

An initial **non-refundable deposit of £20.00** will be required to secure a booking. Payments will then be required at regular intervals, with the final balance due by 28th June 2019. There are enough places available to accommodate the whole of the year group should they all wish to attend. The payment schedule for parents is as follows:

Payment Type	Payment Due Date	Amount
Payment 1 (Deposit)	18 th January 2019	£20.00
Payment 2	1 st March 2019	£20.00
Payment 3	26 th April 2019	£20.00
Payment 4	31 st May 2019	£20.00
Payment 5 (Final)	28 th June 2019	£20.00

£100.00

With our facility for online payment for trips, you can choose to pay this off in smaller weekly amounts, or pay in full. The above payment schedule is set by SOLD, so these are the minimum amounts which **must be received by these dates.**

As we consider high standards of behaviour to be important on educational visits, it may become necessary to review the participation of any child whose conduct in and around the school gives any cause for concern prior or during the visit. In extreme circumstances, a place may be withdrawn altogether and we reserve the right to take this action if it should prove necessary. In such a case, any payments made may not be refundable.

Payment is to be made online via Scopay. If you are unsure of your Scopay login details, please ask the office for a letter. Initial £20 deposit payments must be received no later than **Friday 18th January 2019.**

Yours sincerely,

Mr S. Meakin
Head Teacher

High Ashurst – Further Information

About The Venue

High Ashurst Outdoor Education Centre is set in 56 acres of woodland on Box Hill, near Dorking, in the tranquil Surrey Hills 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty'. The site has a colourful history with records dating back to 1706. Today High Ashurst is a wonderful wide-open space for learning and self-discovery in the natural environment. The centre offers a wide range of activities, including high ropes and a new state of the art climbing tower. The adjacent heathland is ideal for mountain biking and orienteering.

All our activities are delivered by qualified and experienced outdoor education workers. Our staff will facilitate a structured outdoor experience and engage with your group to maximise their learning opportunities. Activities available at High Ashurst include: adventure/night walks, archery, challenge course, climbing and abseiling, high ropes, mountain biking, orienteering, team tasks and woodland skills.

Sample Itinerary

Day 1	Time	Activity
Monday	11:30	Arrival on site
Monday	12:30 - 13:30	Packed lunch - Pupils to bring own packed lunch on first day
Monday	13:30 - 16:30	Activities 1 & 2
Monday	17:00 - 18:00	Evening Meal
Monday	18:30 - 21:00	Teacher-led activity eg. film night or campfire
Day 2	Time	Activity
Tuesday	07:30 - 08:30	Breakfast
Tuesday	09:30 - 12:30	Activities 3 & 4
Tuesday	12:30 - 13:30	Packed Lunch - Provide by venue
Tuesday	14:00	Departure - Return to school by 15:15

Accommodation

“Our deluxe log cabins were built in 2010 to the highest environmental standards. Insulated and double-glazed for energy efficiency, the cabins also feature wood-fuelled heating run on sustainable locally-sourced wood pellets. We are set on surpassing your expectations! Each cabin is beautifully furnished, spacious and comfortable – the perfect place to relax and unwind after an exhilarating day in the outdoors! A home away from home.

Our deluxe log cabins, each sleep up to 20 people (including two group leaders) in six bedrooms. You will sleep comfortably in sturdy wooden bunks and each bedroom has armchairs or plush bean-bags as well as an en-suite bathroom. You will find fresh laundered linen for the beds. There is a spacious living room where you can chill out on the giant bean-bags or gather on the sofas to plan for the day ahead, or relax from your fun day at High Ashurst. Each cabin has a kitchenette equipped with a small fridge, kettles, toasters, fruit squash and plenty of hot chocolate, tea and coffee.”



Catering

We have been awarded the Eat Out Eat Well Gold Standard Award, which means our highly trained catering staff provide healthy eating options – increased fruit and vegetables and decreased fat, sugar and salt. We can cater for most specialised diets, for instance, vegetarians, coeliacs and guests with food allergies. All meals are freshly prepared on site. Please discuss any special dietary requirements with us at least 2 weeks ahead of your booking, to ensure that we have the information at our fingertips to cater for all your needs.

Meal	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3
Breakfast	Sausage, bacon, quorn sausage, fried/scrambled egg, baked beans, tomato, hash browns, croissants, bread, toast and spreads, fruit, cereal, yoghurt	Sausage, bacon, quorn sausage, fried/scrambled egg, baked beans, tomato, hash browns, croissants, bread, toast and spreads, fruit, cereal, yoghurt	Sausage, bacon, quorn sausage, fried/scrambled egg, baked beans, tomato, hash browns, croissants, bread, toast and spreads, fruit, cereal, yoghurt
Lunch	Baguette/sandwich, crisps, fruit, cookie/muffin/flapjack, drink	Baguette/sandwich, crisps, fruit, cookie/muffin/flapjack, drink	Baguette/sandwich, crisps, fruit, cookie/muffin/flapjack, drink
Dinner	Pasta bolognese, macaroni cheese/ ratatouille, garlic bread, garden peas, jacket potato, salad bar. Crumble & custard	Sausage and mash, cauliflower cheese, roast vegetable bake, broccoli, gravy, jacket potato, salad bar. Butterscotch tart with cream	Chicken fajita, quorn enchiladas, three bean rice, potato wedges, sweetcorn, jacket potato, salad bar. Eves pudding

**Sample menus are for guidance only and meal combinations may vary.*

Activities

Challenge Course:

Low level (non-harnessed) ropes course, comprising of various team exercises aiming at group cohesion and teamwork development. Thirteen individual elements are linked together in a circular course with the objective of getting round without touching the ground.

Climbing:

The session starts with some low level climbing, called bouldering or traversing, developing the trust between the climber and their supporting partner, who has to “spot” the climber to make sure they are in contact with the wall. Bouldering and traversing is limited to 1 metre. Then the instructor talks the group through ascending and descending the wall using a “gri-gri” (an assisted braking belay device). When one person is climbing the rest of the group will be supporting the climber or belaying.

Orienteering:

Depending on the ability of the group, orienteering can be started off at many levels, from simple number and compass games to using a fixed post course onsite, and advancing onto participants setting up their own courses and giving them to other members of their group to complete. This gets the group thinking about drawing maps and greatly builds on map reading skills.

Team Tasks:

Uses collective knowledge, inventiveness, communication and common sense to achieve success at the chosen and set challenge. In a team of up to ten, an instructor will challenge the group to succeed at a series of problems, mental or physical (sometimes both). The instructor can adjust the game to make it more or less challenging for the group. An ideal exercise to look closely at group dynamics.

Woodland Skills:

Study the environment and how to best adapt to it. Immensely variable, the sessions focus on survival skills as well as environmental knowledge. Typical woodland skills activities are: fire lighting; shelter building; environmental games; nature walks; Cooking; cordage; tracking or tool use in creating various objects (mallets, pencils, pictures, whistle, key fobs).