



SWINDON VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Residential Visit to The Dean Field Studies Centre October 2021

Information for Parents

1. Dates

Monday 11th October 2021 – Wednesday October 13th 2021

2. Staffing

The adults accompanying the pupils will be:

Mr Roddis, Mr Bradnam, Mrs O'Leary, Mrs Stevenson, Mrs Arrenberg, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Bradley (additional support).

3. Children's Welfare

The health and safety of the children are of prime importance. The Centre has all the necessary risk assessments. Every activity the children undertake has a risk assessment written for it. The centre leader addresses the children upon arrival & a fire practice is held.

In connection with welfare, I would like to make the following points:

- a. As well as health matters, on the parental consent form, if you have not already done so, please make us aware of information (which will be treated in confidence) on related areas such as sleep-walking, bed-wetting, travel sickness, etc.
- b. All medications (including that for travel sickness) should be given, on the morning of departure, to Mrs Stevenson/Mrs O'Leary, with strict written instructions for dosage. **Inhalers should be named, date checked and kept with the children.**
- c. Please note that it is only possible to cater for genuine dietary requirements, e.g. vegetarian/allergies.
- d. Sweets are not allowed
- e. Children are not allowed to have additional food in their rooms
- f. Children will not be permitted to phone home. Homesickness, if it occurs, is normally made worse by phoning home and can automatically spread to others. Children are not to take mobile phones with them.
- g. The centre have adopted approved, additional, Covid safeguarding measures in line with the recommendations for residential activity centres.

Please do let us know anything you think we should know! Thank you.

4. Departure

On Monday 11th October, children should be in school at the normal time with their suitcase left in the staff car park - they **do not** wear school uniform. You are welcome to wait and wave your child off. We will be **aiming** to leave at 9.15am.

5. Kit List – please see separate list

**PLEASE NAME
EVERYTHING!!**

No electrical items please such as hair driers!

- **Plastic drinks container** to be refilled each day
- Small **rucksack** for carrying lunch, and waterproofs etc.

Please pack all belongings into one large bag.



A list of all the clothes and shoes sent from home should be attached to the inside of the suitcase to help children re-pack on the third day.

Points re: Kit List

- (a) A list of kit should be written out in packing order and fixed to the inside of the suitcase lid.
- (b) All items must be clearly named.
- (c) A shoulder bag (or rucksack). Into this should be packed items required for the journey down, e.g. empty purse/wallet, camera*, waterproof coat and pencil case.
- (d) Suitcase and rucksack should be labelled.

6. *Cameras

Your child may bring a camera (NOT a phone to use as a camera) with them if you think that they can cope with the responsibility. Please ensure, however, that:

- (a) Your child is fully conversant with the camera. Tips on taking the best photographs would be useful to save disappointing results.
- (b) Your child is responsible for the safety and security of the camera.
The school can accept no responsibility for loss or damage.
- (d) Disposable cameras may be a good option (from TESCO, SAINSBURY'S etc.).

7. Contact

Please do not telephone The Dean Field Studies Centre or write to your child. The staff will be in contact with the school each day so any important messages may be passed on c/o school on 01242 690016. The office staff will be pleased to answer any enquiries over the phone. We recommend that you all sign up for the school communication system, and we will text you to let you know that we have arrived. Due to a very poor signal, there will not be any photographs available during the week, but we will share them with you on our return. We will do our best to add information to Class Charts (signal permitting), our website 'www.swindonvillage.co.uk'.

8. Pocket Money

£5 pocket money was included in the cost of the trip. This will be distributed by the staff when the children use the Centre shop. Once money is distributed it becomes the complete responsibility of the child. Please do not send your child with additional pocket money as this is unfair to the other children.

9. Bedtime

Children will normally be required to have lights out in their rooms within half an hour of returning to their bedroom after an evening activity. Apart from using the bathroom the children must not leave their room until they are told to do so, unless there is an emergency. Staff bedrooms will be labelled.

10. Return

On their return the children will be back in school to be collected at the end of the day at the normal time. Of course, this is dependent on the traffic.

11. Rules

For their own safety, children must obey all centre or school staff at all times.

12. Insurance

The visit is insured through the Local Authority's insurers. A copy of the cover is available from the office on request. You may obtain additional cover if you so wish.

13. Covid-19

We want to reassure you that your child's safety during their visit is paramount. The Centre has rigorous Covid-19 risk assessments and policies in place to ensure the well-being of all their guests and employees. Their staff are regularly Covid tested, and follow strict procedures for maintaining a Covid-secure site. They have installed the latest technology with products that are safe for people and the environment, but highly effective in the fight against coronavirus. All their public areas are meticulously cleaned daily, with bedrooms deep cleaned and sanitised between guests.

They have been externally inspected and approved Covid-secure. They closely monitor official advice from the World Health Organisation, Public Health England, the Department for Education and Bristol City Council to ensure they are following the latest guidance. The staff are regularly briefed, and training updated as required. Our school will be the only school residential. Students will be encouraged to wash hands regularly and use hand sanitiser.

If your child or anyone in your household has symptoms of COVID-19 (a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell), they should not attend but contact your school and then follow the current procedures for isolating and/or seeking medical advice.

In the event that a visiting student or staff member is taken ill with suspected Covid-19 they will be isolated, and parents/guardians contacted.

If you have any problems and/or enquiries between now and the visit please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geraint Mills', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Geraint Mills
Head Teacher**

Kit List

- Wellington Boots (named please)
- Waterproof cagoule / jacket
- Waterproof trousers – there are some to borrow at the Centre if your child does not have any
- Thin and Thick socks (plenty of spares please)
- 3 x tracksuit bottoms/manmade fibre trousers (not jeans)
- 3 x fleece/jumper/sweatshirt
- sports 'skins' / Thermals / vests (for 'layering' in cold weather)
- Underwear
- 2 x outdoor shoes/boots/trainers
- Hat and gloves
- Large plastic bags to take damp clothes home in
- Toiletries
- Large towel
- Night clothes
- Indoor shoes/slippers
- Water bottle (500ml+)
- Any required medication
- Reading book
- rucksack for carrying coat, water bottle, gloves etc. when walking through the forest