



SWINDON VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Residential Visit to The Dean Field Studies Centre March 2026

Information for Parents

1. Dates

Monday 23rd March 2026 to Wednesday 25th March 2026

2. Health Information & Consent

To prepare for the trip you need to **fill out, sign and return the DFC1: Confidential Medical Information & Consent Form to school by Friday 27th February**. Children cannot attend without a completed form as this information is essential for Dean Field staff to ensure your child's safety whilst at the Centre. Please use the DFC1 form to tell us about any health issues (e.g. medical conditions, disability, recent accidents etc.) that may affect your child's ability to participate safely.

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, in a clear bag with name on. **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. In the case of food allergies, it is essential to advise how serious the allergy is – this should be written on the DFC1.
- 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.

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

4. Departure

On Monday 23rd March, 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

No electrical items please such as hair driers!

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

**PLEASE NAME
EVERYTHING!!**

Please pack all
belongings into one
large bag.

Points re: Kit List

- (a) A list of all the clothes and shoes sent from home should be attached to the inside of the bag/suitcase to help children re-pack on the third day. An extra copy has been included in the pack for ease.
- (b) **All items** must be clearly named.
- (c) A backpack / rucksack (2 straps preferably). Into this should be packed items required for the journey down, e.g. empty purse/wallet, ~~camera*~~, waterproof coat and pencil case.
- (d) Bag/suitcase and rucksack should be labelled.

6. Cameras

Your child may **not** bring a camera. Staff will be taking plenty of photographs, which will be available to look at on our Facebook page.

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 will text the first contact of each child to let you know that we have arrived. We will do our best to add photos to our Facebook page at the end of each day to show the day's activities, however, please bear in mind that the signal is not great there.

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 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. Please collect your child from the school hall and **then** collect their luggage from outside of the main entrance.

11. Rules/Behaviour

Whilst we appreciate that it is exciting to be away from home and school on a residential trip, we have high expectations of student behaviour. Any child that compromises his own safety or that of the group may be excluded from activities or ultimately may be sent home.

12. Insurance

The centre holds public liability insurance, which is supplemented by school trip insurance arranged by school through the Local Authority.

13. Illness

We want to reassure you that your child's safety and wellbeing during their visit is paramount.

In the unlikely event that a visiting student or staff member is taken ill whilst away, 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,



**Geraint Mills
Head Teacher**



Kit List (Everything Named)

- **3 x** Tracksuit bottoms / manmade fibre trousers (NOT jeans/denim)
 - **3 x** Fleece top / Jumper / Sweat top / Hoodie
 - **3 x** Long & short sleeve t-shirts / skins/ thermals (lots of thin layers are best)
 - Thin & thick socks (plenty of spares)
 - Wellies
 - **2 x** outdoor shoes / boots / trainers
 - Hat & Gloves
 - Waterproof cagoule / jacket
 - Toothbrush, toiletries and large towel
 - Large plastic bags to take damp clothes home
 - Waterproof trousers – there are some to borrow at the centre if your child does not have any
 - Backpack / rucksack / for carrying coat / water bottle, gloves etc. when walking through the forest
 - Prescribed medication – **must be clearly labelled and handed to school staff**
- Hair bands for long hair
 - Underwear
 - Night clothes
 - Indoor shoes/slippers
 - Reading book
 - Torch
 - Water bottle (500ml+)

Kit List (Everything Named) – please attach to inside of bag / suitcase

- **3 x** Tracksuit bottoms / manmade fibre trousers (NOT jeans/denim)
 - **3 x** Fleece top / Jumper / Sweat top / Hoodie
 - **3 x** Long & short sleeve t-shirts / skins/ thermals (lots of thin layers are best)
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