

# wildchild

Inspiring a lifetime of adventure

## PARENT INFORMATION



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## WILDCHILD ADVENTURE OUTDOOR TRIPS





### Welcome to Wildchild!

Wildchild are an award-winning provider of affordable residential trips. Our fun, child-centered, outdoor adventures offer a unique opportunity for children to challenge themselves and discover new skills and talents to last a lifetime. A Wildchild Adventure allows them to play, connect with nature, get muddy, have the freedom to explore, create memories and above all have fun!

We know that school trips often conjure up memories of cold damp tents. Not at Wildchild! Whether staying in our well-maintained warm, dry bell-tents, or our cosy woodland pods, our conveniently located centres in the South East of England, provide a safe and enjoyable environment for children to challenge themselves and enjoy a real outdoor adventure. Whilst there, they will benefit from the extensive range of outdoor activities on offer as well as the natural environment perfect for bushcraft, survival, and nature-based activities.

Our professional and enthusiastic team will be with your group on every step of their adventure, to encourage, support and challenge. They are fully trained, DBS checked and highly experienced in outdoor education provision. Most importantly they are passionate about sharing their love of the outdoors and being a positive role model to the children in their care.

By the end of their adventure your child should come away having learned the importance of teamwork, and with a confidence, resilience and sense of curiosity and adventure to help them face life's challenges, with a deeper understanding and love of nature. Most importantly they will take away happy memories and fun experiences that they will hopefully look back on in later years as the first of many life-affirming experiences in a life filled with adventure.



## Challenge, Play & Educate

By encouraging children to try activities outside of their comfort zone and believe in their own abilities, our programmes give children a real sense of achievement, an increased sense of confidence and above all a chance to shine!

Example Programme		
Day One		
	Activity	Extra information
AM	Arrival and welcome	A very <b>wild welcome</b> and a chance to settle into our cosy <b>woodland pods</b> or <b>bell tents</b> .
	Woodland games	<b>Scavenger hunt</b> : A fun nature trail to navigate around the woods collecting woodland items along the way. <b>Forest games / Bug hotels</b> : Use leaves, bark, twigs, pinecones and anything you can find to build a fun and exciting home for our minibeast friends and/or build new friendships whilst enjoying a variety of nature-based games.
	Lunch	<b>Picnic</b> in the woods (bring a packed lunch).
PM	Wild Survivor Bushcraft	Work together to build the ultimate woodland <b>shelter</b> using materials found within the woodland. Learn how to safely use a <b>fire-steel</b> and build the perfect campfire to roast <b>marshmallows</b> !
	Dinner	Chicken or vegetable <b>curry</b> with rice, and our chef's famous <b>chocolate brownie</b> !
	Campfire	The perfect end to the day, sing along to <b>songs</b> around the <b>campfire</b> , before winding down with a cup of <b>hot chocolate</b> .
Day Two		
AM	Breakfast	Cereal selection, toast, sausage bap + fruit juice.
	Adventure activities	Go for gold in <b>Archery</b> before feeling the adrenaline as you reach new heights and work as a team in either <b>Crate stacking</b> or <b>High ropes</b>
	Lunch + Departure	<b>Picnic</b> in the woods before heading back to school.

### Kit List

The following list is designed to give you an idea of the kit children will need to bring with them on their adventure. They will be responsible for carrying their luggage to and from the camp site / lodges on arrival and departure, therefore we recommend sticking to the list as much as possible so children only carry what they really need for their trip. Recommended items are optional, so it's fine if children don't have them, but would be useful if they do.

#### Essential:

- Sleeping bag (3 season)
- Large rucksack / holdall (avoid wheeled suitcases)
- Clothing for each day of your trip to include:
  - Tracksuit
  - Hard-wearing trousers / shorts (no jeans)
  - Base layers / vests / T-shirts
  - Warm fleece / jumpers
  - Socks / underwear (we advise bringing 2 pairs of socks for each day)
- Waterproof jacket
- Warm pyjamas (please remember even in the summer camping can be cold at night, so layers are essential)
- Sturdy shoes or boots, e.g. Walking boots, or old trainers for activities
- Trainers (not plimsolls) for evenings (No sandals / crocs. You can bring flip flops for the showers)
- Named water bottle
- Toiletries including toothpaste, toothbrush, roll-on deodorant (not aerosol). All preferably in a named wash-bag.

- Towel
- Torch with spare batteries
- Plastic bag for dirty clothes

#### Recommended:

- Pillow
- Waterproof trousers
- Book / cards / games (nothing electronic or valuable) to enjoy during down time
- Plastic / Bin bag for wet / muddy clothes

#### Weather dependent:

- Wellies
- Sun cream
- Sun hat
- Warm hat / gloves

#### What not to bring:

- Sweets and snacks (no food allowed in tents/pods)
- Mobile phones, tablets, electronic games consoles etc
- Jewellery

**Please ensure that your child packs their own bag so they know what they have with them and can find it easily on arrival**

Please ensure kit list items are labelled wherever possible. When packing please keep in mind that clothes and shoes will be worn to undertake physical outdoor activity, so we strongly recommend packing worn, comfortable clothing and footwear that you're happy to get muddy! Wildchild cannot accept liability for the loss of any personal property so please don't bring any valuable items.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What does a Wildchild adventure include?**

We provide all activities, equipment, instruction, meals (except packed lunch on day 1) and accommodation in either our woodland camp, or pod villages. Children will need to bring a sleeping bag for their bunk beds and particularly if camping, please try to ensure children have a warm, 3-season sleeping bag as even in the summer it does feel cold at night.

### **Where do teachers and pupils sleep?**

For trips at our Phasels Wood location, teachers and pupils sleep in our traditional tented village, and where possible male teachers will be located in the boys' section, female teachers in the girls' section. Pupils tents sleep 6 in bunk bed formation. For trips at our Walton Firs location, teachers and pupils sleep in our timber pod villages. Pods sleep 8 in bunk bed formation.

### **What arrangements are in place for night-time?**

Wildchild staff stay on site overnight, and are on hand as a support to teachers in case of any emergencies. Both our woodland camp and pod villages are fit with a motion-sensor lighting system for the safety of teachers and children. Night toilets on the camp are also provided.

### **What qualifications do Wildchild staff hold?**

All Wildchild instructors and leaders are first aid trained, DBS checked, and have specialised experience in outdoor education as well as all the necessary qualifications for the activities undertaken (archery, bushcraft, environmental education etc.). Most importantly, our team are friendly, energetic, and share our passion for working with children to inspire a love of the great outdoors.

### **Do you cater for specific dietary requirements and allergies?**

Yes, all dietary requirements are catered for as long as we are aware of them in advance. Please ensure you provide any relevant medical / dietary information to your school by 8 weeks prior to the trip. Here at Wildchild, we encourage children to try new things, including the delicious, freshly prepared meals, however, if you still have concerns regarding fussy eating we can discuss this with you further.

### **What happens in bad weather?**

All activities will go ahead in bad weather if safe to do so. The odds are that your child will experience at least some rain or bad weather during your trip. As long as they have enough layers and waterproof clothing (see separate kit list), they are generally happy to undertake outdoor activities undeterred by the British weather! An indoor area is available for mealtimes.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Are shower facilities available?**

Yes, separate male / female toilet and shower facilities are available, as well as night-time toilets.

### **What kind of food will be available on the trip?**

All meals are freshly prepared on site including a balance of meat, vegetables, fruit and carbohydrates. We also provide the all-important marshmallows around the campfire! Typical meals may include lasagne, curry, and pasta bolognese, all served with salad / vegetables, and finished with a tasty dessert!

### **Should my child bring any money?**

No, there isn't an opportunity for spending it, so your child won't need to bring any money.

### **What valuables should my child bring with them?**

Children will spend their time engaged in outdoor activities, and we don't have anywhere to store valuables, so we advise against bringing mobile phones, tablets, electronic games etc. and we would also ask you to ensure they aren't wearing any jewellery that could get lost or damaged during the activities.

### **Can I contact my child while they are away?**

Your school will be able to contact us in case of an emergency, but otherwise we find children settle better and enjoy their time away when they don't have outside contact that may encourage homesickness.

### **Who can I contact if I have any questions?**

Please refer any questions to your school or group leader in the first instance. They should have all the information they need to answer your queries, or they can contact us for anything else.

For more information and to access downloadable resources visit:

<https://www.wildchildadventure.com/residential-trip-parent-information/>

Social media is a great way for your schools to share updates and photos of your child's Wildchild adventure. For more news and behind the scenes follow us below:



Wildchild Adventure



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