



A Parent's Guide

Gilwell Park School Residential

Why a residential?

Spending a week in the outdoors helps your young person develop and grow. School residentials have been proven to increase attainment, engagement, relationships and confidence.

Residential experiences can lead to a 58% improvement in attainment at primary level and 77% improvement at secondary level. Over three quarters of young people also say they get on better with their teachers thanks to the residential.

Scout Adventures

Here at Scout Adventures, we believe that amazing things can happen in the great outdoors. With our expertise in informal outdoor learning and world-famous Scouting heritage, we've inspired generations of young people to reach their potential and learn skills for life.

Our centres are not just places to visit and stay; they're starting points for new adventures, expeditions and experiences. We believe in making every experience fun, friendly, adventurous and unforgettable.

Indoor Accommodation

All of our indoor accommodation is modern, clean and comfortable. Bedrooms are dorm-style with communal toilet and shower facilities. Each building has a large main hall and kitchen facilities.

Your school will have sole use of the building throughout your stay, and staff are always on hand to help with any issues that may arise.

We don't provide bedding as standard, so please ensure your child has a sleeping bag and pillow unless your school's staff say otherwise.

Tented Village

If your child's school is staying in one of our Tented Villages, we provide sleeping tents, a communal marquee and small camp kitchen. Although other groups may be nearby, the Tented Village will be for the school's sole use during their stay.

Our sleeping tents are provided with mattress pads, lanterns and storage boxes in all sleeping tents. The communal marquee will be provided with benches, tables and lighting.

We don't provide bedding as standard, so please ensure your child has a sleeping bag and pillow unless your school's staff say otherwise.



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Activities

We encourage young people to paddle, climb and think their way through a series of exciting challenges, from kayaking and archery to high ropes and orienteering. We find immersed in the outdoors, young people will learn skills, work as a team and develop a sense of responsibility.

Our centres have more than 25 activities, and our team have put together the perfect program for your child's school. This could get wet or muddy – so make sure child has enough spare clothes!

We request that for safety and comfort the following dress code is followed when on our activities:

- Appropriate footwear (no open toe shoes)
- Shorts are at least knee length
- No skirts
- Tops cover all of the upper body
- Long hair to be tied back
- Jewellery to be removed

For air rifle sessions, there are strict regulatory requirements. If you're school has booked this session, more detailed information will be provided nearer the time of your child's residential.

We have just a few golden rules whilst your child is with us. We ask that they respect each other and their teachers, respect the site and respect our staff. We'll give the school a full introduction and safety briefing when they arrive on site with us.

Catering

All of our catering is provided by a trusted external caterer. We are always happy to work with parents and schools to ensure all dietary requirements are catered for. We can provide your child's school with a sample menu before your visit to us.

For residential visits, we generally provide food from dinner on arrival day to lunch on departure day. This means you just need to include a packed lunch for your child's first day.

Safe Adventures

With over 100 years of experience in engaging young people in adventure, Scout Adventure centres are operated with the highest levels of safety and quality educational provision in mind.



Our teams are trained and assessed to all relevant national standards to ensure they are able to provide not just a safe experience, but a great one too.

We have undertaken accreditation with a number of schemes dedicated to maintaining high quality provision in the outdoor sector, and all our activities have thorough risk assessments.

Our Staff

We'll work alongside your school's teaching staff to look after your child during their stay with. If your child's school has booked a package with us, they will be allocated an instructor as a Programme Leader. This instructor will be with the school throughout the day – ensuring everything is running smoothly, supporting the school at meal times and coordinating activities.

Our teams are trained and assessed to all relevant national standards to ensure they are able to provide not just a safe experience, but a great one too. All our instructors are DBS checked, hold current First Aid qualifications and are rigorously trained.

We have staff on-site 24/7, and we're just a call away to help your school's teaching staff should anything occur.

Security on Site

Scout Adventures isn't open to public bookings, and our staff are trained to challenge anyone unidentified on site. The centre is monitored by CCTV, and we have staff on-site 24/7.

Your group will be escorted by your Adventure Leader and members of the schools teaching staff at all times. Your schools teaching staff will sleep in the same building, which is locked from the inside for peace of mind during the night.

On the very rare occasion that we have an emergency on site, we have suitable plans in place and all staff are trained to react appropriately.

Kit List

- Torch and spare batteries
- Any medication required
- Sleeping bag, pillow and nightwear
- Suitable clothing (synthetic materials recommended)
- Plastic bags for wet/muddy clothing
- Sunhat and sun cream, or winter hat and gloves
- Hair ties for long hair



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- Pocket money for the shop
- Trousers and/or shorts (jeans not recommended)
- T-shirts/base layers
- Sweatshirt, hoodie or fleece
- Spare underwear and socks
- Closed toe, sturdy footwear (wellies not suitable)
- Waterproof jacket and trousers
- Towel and toiletries

There's no need to bring sweets or snacks – we'll make sure your young people are well-fed! We wouldn't recommend bringing mobile phones, electronics or digital cameras either.

Although your school's teaching staff will be in charge of medication and conditions, if you have any requirements that might affect your activities, please let your school know so they can pass this information to us.



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Sample Package Program		
Arrival Day		
11:00	Arrival	Meet your Programme Leader, have a site tour and briefing, and get settled in.
12:00	Lunch	Students have the chance to eat the packed lunch bought with them.
13:30	Activity	Led by centre instructors (e.g. Backwoods Cooking)
15:00	Activity	Led by centre instructors (e.g. Kayaking)
16:45	Free time	A chance for you to catch up with your Programme Leader, relax and take a break.
18:00	Dinner	Your Programme Leader will take you to dinner and ensure your group is well fed.
19:00	Activity	An evening activity led by centre instructors (e.g. Campfire)
Typical Day		
08:00	Breakfast	Your Programme Leader will take you to breakfast and brief your group for the day.
09:15	Activity	Led by centre instructors (e.g. High All Aboard)
11:00	Activity	Led by centre instructors (e.g. Team Building)
12:30	Lunch	Your Programme Leader will take you to lunch and catch up with your group.
13:30	Activity	Led by centre instructors (e.g. Rock Climbing)
15:00	Activity	Led by centre instructors (e.g. Pedal Go Karts)
16:45	Free time	A chance for you to catch up with your Programme Leader, relax and take a break.
18:00	Dinner	Your Programme Leader will take you to dinner and ensure your group is well fed.
19:00	Activity	An evening activity led by centre instructors (e.g. Campfire)
Departure Day		
08:00	Breakfast	Your Programme Leader will take you to breakfast and brief your group for the day.
09:15	Activity	Led by centre instructors (e.g. High All Aboard)
11:00	Activity	Led by centre instructors (e.g. Team Building)
12:30	Lunch	Your Programme Leader will take you to lunch and brief you for departure.
13:00	Pack	Pack up your belongings, and ensure your accommodation is left clean and tidy.
14:00	Departure	Your Programme Leader will take you to your coach and give a final goodbye.



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Sample Menu

Example Breakfasts

Sausages, bacon, poached eggs, beans and hash browns.

Selection of cereals, toast and jams, cereal and fresh fruit juice.

Fresh Danish pastries, cereal and yoghurts.

Example Lunch

Selection of filled rolls or sandwiches. Crisps, fruit, cakes and a bottle of water.

Example Dinners

Bacon cheeseburgers served with fries and slaw.

Cajun chicken pasta bake with garlic bread and house salad.

Lasagne served with garlic bread and house salad.

Sausage and mash served with red onion gravy and garden peas.

Southern fried chicken with potato wedges and corn on the cob.

Pasta Bolognese bake with garlic bread and house salad.

Allergies and special dietary requirements catered for upon request.

Sample menu only, subject to change.