



An Adventure in Education

Forest School Camps

Programme
2010



Welcome

Welcome to the FSC Programme 2010. Please read the programme carefully. The main points are highlighted below.

- * Please read the important information pages carefully before applying for camp.
- * Please make sure you check the dates of camps carefully.

1st Fortnight Summer Camps dates are Thurs 29th July - Wed 11th Aug
 2nd Fortnight Summer Camps dates are Sun 15th Aug - Sat 28th Aug*
 *except Camp no.33 which runs from 15th Aug - 25th Aug & Camp no.35 which runs from 17th Aug - 30th Aug

- * Please note the split of the age groups in the How to Enrol section.
- * You have a better chance of a place on a summer camp if you opt for second fortnight.
- * Please see Camp Fees section for fee information.
- * No child should be unable to camp for financial reasons (see Camp Support and Aid Fund section).

We hope you like your programme, and that you enjoy planning your camping this year.

Contents

About Forest School Camps.....1	Important Information:
	..... How to Enrol.....2
	..... Camp Fees.....4
	..... Aid Fund.....5
	..... Children with Special Needs.....5
	..... Cancellation.....6
	..... Parents' Meeting.....6
	..... Police Checks.....6
	..... New Sites.....6
	..... New Campers.....7
	..... Camp Life.....7
	Easter & Earlier.....8
	Spring Camps.....10
	Whitsun & Early Summer Camps.....12
	Summer Camps.....14
	Associate Membership of FSC.....26
	Associate Camps.....27
	FSC Stores.....29
	Conservation & Skills Camps.....30
	Fenwood.....32
	FSC Regional Groups.....32
	Preparing for Camp.....33
	Camp Kit List.....34
	Under Tens.....37
	Mobile Camps.....37
	New Staff.....38
	Contacts.....39
	Camp Dates.....40
	Camp Sites.....41



Forest School Camps

Forest School Camps (FSC) is not a commercial holiday company; it is an educational charity and a voluntary organisation. All our officers and staff are unpaid volunteers.



The original Forest School, which ran in the 1930s, drew its philosophy from progressive educators, from the Woodcraft movements and the Native Americans, from Quakers and others. Special importance was attached to the experience of boys and girls, children and adults, learning to work and play together close to nature.



FSC began in 1948 when former pupils and staff came together, anxious to develop and pass on the ways, values and spirit of Forest School which by then had closed.



Our approach to education is about discovering for oneself how to do something, rather than being told in the abstract. Children and staff find themselves in situations that encourage this; the outdoors demands and encourages learning.



We remove unnecessary authority and, with due regard for safety and legality, encourage children to take responsibility and reach their own decisions on both small and not-so-small issues, individually or as members of a group.



At camp we aim to teach ourselves how to live with independence and responsibility; concern and care for ourselves, other people and the environment; resourcefulness and self-confidence; tolerance and respect. FSC is determined that all people be treated equally regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, religion or disability. These are high ideals - we don't always succeed.



A Native American belief is that you will only be in touch with nature if you 'sit and sleep on the earth'. This feeling for the wholeness of life on our planet is expressed in some of our rituals and the names we give things at camp.



The philosophy developed at camp is practised throughout the administrative organisation of FSC. When you enrol your children you become part of FSC and this approach. Many staff members begin their association with FSC as parents or campers.



Camp is great fun, though at a practical level it can also be cold and wet, and often dirty. Despite this, many people camp again and again and again. Join us to find out why!

How to Enrol

Early application is strongly recommended for all camps as demand for places is high. Children whose applications are received after 5th February 2010 will be disadvantaged in their placement on camp. However, we place children to ensure that camps are balanced by age, sex and experience. Therefore children are not allocated places in strict order of receipt of applications, and some applicants applying earlier than 5th February may still be disappointed.

In order to give as many children as possible a place at camp, you will not be able to go on both a Whitsun camp and a main summer camp. If you apply for both periods you should make it clear which is your first choice.

You should hear by 13th March whether your application for a weekend, Whitsun or summer camp has been successful. Easter and early Caving applications will be notified as soon as possible.

Please apply for camps using the appropriate pre-printed form. Do not photocopy them, except for younger siblings.

Please send completed forms to the appropriate place, printed at the bottom of the enrolment form.

Potential new campers may download a registration form from the website. We accept registrations between September and November each year for the following year's camps. We do not accept registration requests or first-time camp applications from children over primary school age; i.e. those who are over twelve or who will have a twelfth birthday before 1st September.

All children who camp with us are youth members of FSC until they reach the age of 18, when we hope to welcome them as staff.

Members are placed first and because we try to provide a continuous experience for children, priority for membership is given to siblings of existing members. New applicants may be placed on a waiting list for one or more years. Children are not normally

enrolled on activity camps until they have attended two standing camps, i.e. when they are experienced FSC campers. This applies even if your child has camped with other organisations. The standing camps impart the basic FSC philosophy essential for activity camps.

Please do not ask for more than two children (other than siblings) to camp together as this restricts our ability to offer them a place on their choice of camps and may reduce the chance of children being placed at all.

At camp, children join their own age group (based on their age on 1st September):

- Elves 6.6 to 8.11 (School Years 2 & 3)**
- Woodlings 9.0 to 11.11 (School years 4, 5 and 6)**
- Trailseekers 12.0 to 13.11 (School years 7 and 8)**
- Trackers 14.0 to 15.11 (School years 9 and 10)**
- Pathfinders 16.0 to 17.11 (School years 11 and 12)**

Each group camps separately from the others. Therefore unless siblings or friends happen to be in the same group, it will not be possible for them to share a tent.



Camp Fees

Please refer to the camps listed for the applicable fee grouping. Please DO NOT send any money with your application.

It is FSC policy that no child will be refused a place due to financial circumstances. See Camper Support below.

Fees include return fares from London. If a child misses the escorted party it is the parent or guardian's responsibility to arrange his or her transport to the site at their own cost.

Financial support is available on all camps. Please see Camper Support Fund and Aid Fund section below:

Group	Fee
Group A	£35
Group B	£45
Group C	£65
Group D	£85
Group E	£115
Group F	£250
Group G	£310
Group H	£340

* When you have been allocated a place on camp we will write to you with the payment details.

* This letter will detail how fees may be paid including paying by instalments and rebates for those travelling independently to camp.

* 10% of this total fee is treated as a non-refundable deposit, to cover our administration costs, once you have agreed to accept the place.

* All Whitsun and summer camp fees must be paid in full at least six weeks before the camp. Easter and weekend camps must be paid before the camp starts.



Camper Support and Aid Fund

FSC offers assistance with camp fees for families who cannot afford to pay the full fees. This may include students, parents on benefits or a low income and those whose circumstances change. In order to apply for assistance from the Aid Fund, please tick the box in the enrolment form and the Aid Fund secretary will contact you.

Children will not be refused a place due to financial circumstances, although we do sometimes have to turn down children due to the high demand for places.

The Aid Fund also has equipment, such as sleeping bags, waterproofs etc. If you would like to borrow any equipment for camp please contact the **Aid Fund secretaries** at the address below:

Ben and Bron McCarthy
camper.support@fsc.org.uk

Donations

FSC is very grateful to receive donations. This enables other children to enjoy the experience of FSC and for our kit to be maintained. Please make cheques payable to '**Forest School Camps**' and send them to the Finance Group (see contacts page). If you would like to make your donation more tax efficient through the use of the Gift Aid scheme, or would like to make a regular donation by standing order, please visit our website and download the form, or let the Finance Group know and they will send you the appropriate form.



Children with Special Needs

FSC runs some camps suitable for active children with special needs due to learning difficulties or physical disabilities. These camps are marked with a symbol throughout the programme.

We also integrate children into other camps wherever possible. We can advise parents, guardians or sponsors which camp would be the most suitable for a particular child. We realise that children with disabilities may need a dedicated staff member at camp.

If parents or sponsors feel that their child with disabilities would enjoy camping, we ask them not to let the cost deter them from applying, as FSC may be able to arrange financial assistance.

Parents or sponsors of children with special needs should apply directly to:

John Bradshaw
214 Allesley Old Road
Coventry
CV5 8GJ
special@fsc.org.uk

Social workers, teachers, care workers, foster parents and others wishing to enrol children who would benefit from our camps should also contact John at the above address.

Cancellation

If you have to cancel a place at a camp, please write to the Children's Secretary, Forest School Camps, Hillrow Causeway, Haddenham, Ely. CB6 3PA giving the reason, as soon as possible.

If a place is cancelled within six weeks of the start of camp it may not be possible to enrol another child. Therefore a portion of the fee will be kept to cover our costs. FSC does not insure you against cancellation. Holiday insurance (available from most travel agents and banks) would cover you against this risk. Such insurance could also cover loss or damage to a member's equipment, for which FSC cannot accept responsibility.

Please note that the final decision on refunds rests with the Children's Secretary.

Parents' Meeting

There will be a Saturday meeting in central London for parents, guardians and sponsors whose children are enrolled on this year's camps:

Saturday 24th April 2010

For all those attending spring, Whistun or summer camps.

This will be an opportunity for you to meet some of the staff of the camps and to find out more about FSC. Full details of the meeting will be sent to you by your camp organiser. If



you do not have a child enrolled, but would like to attend the meeting, details may be obtained from the Enquiries Officer (see contacts page) after 1st April.

Criminal Record Checks

All FSC staff are required to have submitted a correctly completed Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) disclosure application before they can be enrolled to staff on our child camps. We continue to operate our own internal procedures to ensure the suitability of our staff, over and above the information obtained from CRB checks. We keep the process of CRB checking our staff under regular review.

New Sites

We are always keen to find new sites and there have been occasions in the past when we have had to cancel camps (due to Foot and Mouth disease, for instance). Our need to cancel would be reduced if more sites were available to us. If you have, or know of, twelve acres or so of land which would be suitable for a camp, whether as emergency back-up or as a regular site, please contact:

Em Munn
Camps Committee Coordinator
camps@fsc.org.uk

Camp Life

Most of our summer, Whitsun and Easter camps are standing camps. This means that they are based at one site. Small camps may have between 25 and 35 children on them, and large camps between 60 and 70. At standing camps we impart the basic camping skills. The children learn to pitch a tent, to look after their possessions and to keep them dry. They learn to gather and cut wood, to make fires and to cook food. Groups of campers from across the age range - clans - take turns in the kitchen to prepare the food for the camp.

All this knowledge is consolidated by the two to four-day hike which takes place during the camp. Each age group goes with its staff for a distance suitable for the age and strength of its members. During the hike the children usually plan, buy (with camp funds) and cook their own meals, with help when needed.

Other activities during the camp may include swimming, exploring, night walks, country dancing, organised activities in trees,

New Campers

Going to camp for the first time can seem scary. Camp life is very different from the lifestyle most of us are used to, but children fit in very quickly and enjoy the experience of living in an FSC community. Both staff and children are learning all the time, and every camp has its own good and bad times for everyone.

Each year there are some children who are camping for the first time. Staff make every effort to ensure that new children feel at home and secure. Camp is a caring community where everyone tries to be alert to each individual's hopes and fears. The camp starts on the escort journey, and it's a good idea for children to travel with the escorted party if at all possible. This is where people first start to get to know each other

Further information and advice will come by post with the 'pre-camp circular' a few weeks before camp starts.

campfires, and various FSC games. The end of camp is marked by two major events: Merrymoot and Lodge Common Council. At Merrymoot, the whole camp gathers round a roaring fire to entertain each other with a mixture of songs, sketches and improvisations. At Lodge Common Council, the campers gather around a more formal fire and review the camp, suggesting changes in activities or emphasis for the following year.

After a few standing camps, many children are ready to try an activity camp. Most of these camps are semi-mobile or mobile, travelling on foot, by bicycle, by canoe or by sailboat. The campers buy their food (with camp funds) every few days and cook in small groups. Activity camps are generally smaller than standing camps, usually with 15 to 25 children. Some mobiles are strenuous, others are easier. The descriptions of the camps give more information. Many activity camps are for experienced FSC members only, i.e. those who have attended 2 standing camps.



Easter and Earlier

Please note the dates of the following camps carefully.

There are often more places available on Easter camps than on Whitsun and summer camps. The weather at Easter is sometimes challenging, but the result is often a particularly close and enjoyable camp.

1 Devon Cave Training 2 Makin an Shakin

Camp Chief: **Flow Stone**

A chance for experienced older Tracker and Pathfinder cavers to come and learn the intricacies of Devon's muddy but glorious caves so that you can help others on the main caving camp at Easter. All staff new or old cavers are welcome to come and train too. Devon caves are a great introduction to the underground.

Extra info: This camp is for experienced FSC campers only.

Ages: **15 years + experienced cavers only**

Dates: **Fri 19th - Sun 21st Mar**

Travel: **Campers to make their own way to the site** (lifts will be arranged wherever possible).

Fees: **Group A**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

Camp Chiefs: **Dave Monk & Neale Jervey**

We've only got 168 hrs to discover how to make fire from steel, make shelter from the North wind and eat things that your granny gathered by moonlight. Danbury Woods will allow us to abandon our tents and sleep in trees but only if you find the right Knot !! The sign on the gate says--bring bucket loads of energy, an exploring mind and little need of sleep. This is Makin an Shakin.

Ages: **9 - 17.11**

Dates: **Fri 2nd April - Fri 9th April**

Travel: **Coach from London**

Fees: **Group F**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4



Please send your applications for these camps to Julie & Rod Gritten, Traian, Llanfrothen, Penrhyndeudrath, Gwynedd, LL48 6SW
Please check dates of camps carefully



3 Easter at Hodore

Camp Chief: **Bryson Gore**

A week on the lovely site in East Sussex. We shall build our own community of Tiggers, Piglets and Poohs and go on an adventure to play Pooh-Sticks on the real Pooh Bridge. Plus plenty of fire lighting, shelter building and camp craft skills to set us up for a year of great camping. Easter can be cold and wet, sunny and warm - so come prepared. Two sleeping bags, plenty of T shirts and a willingness to share ideas should be on your kit list. See you there.

Ages: **6.6 - 17.11**

Dates: **Fri 2nd April - Fri 9th April**

Travel: **Coach from Brixton, London**

Fees: **Group F**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

4 Dartmoor Caving

Camp Chiefs:
Giles Vellacott & Helen Spencer

Caving at Easter this year, we're looking forward to introducing some 11 year olds (with FSC standing camp experience) to the underground delights of two caves in Devon, one warm and dry, one wonderfully muddy. We have booked the William Pengelly caving hut, where we will eat and sleep, clean up and dry off.

Extra info: Caving equipment supplied, wellies and walking gear needed.

Ages: **11.0 - 17.11**

Dates: **Wed 7th - Sun 11th April**

Travel: **Escort party from Bristol Temple Meads only - We can help coordinate travel.** (campers to pay cost).

Fees: **Group E**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

Spring Camps

5 Venice

Camp Chiefs:
Roddy Brooks & Stephan Ashford

A walking weekend on the canals round the western edge of the Black Country with our (f) rusty narrowboat. We will spend the evenings and mornings on the same site standing camp style, with cooking fires, lats and campfires. On Monday we clear the site and go to the Black Country Museum for the day before taking the train home.

Extra info: Early May can be cold and wet; please have good waterproofs and footwear and bring warm clothes and sleeping bags

Ages: **9.0 - 17.11**

Dates: **Early Sat 1st May - Mon 3rd May**

Travel: **Train from Marylebone**

Fees: **Group C**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4



Please send your applications for these camps to
FSC Enrolments, PO BOX 3185, London, SW18 3JG
Please check dates of camps carefully

6 In the Vale of the White Horse

Camp Chief: **Julian Welsh**

We won't be travelling too far for this long spring weekend, but we will try to lose ourselves in a land of snapping twigs, adventures in the woods, crackling campfires, singing, living in the open, sleeping on the ground and sitting on logs. The nights may be cold, the sun may be warm. I may see you there.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for active children with special needs due to learning difficulties or physical disabilities.

Ages: **6.6 - 17.11**

Dates: **Fri 30th April - Mon 3rd May**

Travel: **Train and coach from London to**

Didcot

Fees: **Group E**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4



7 Spring Weekend at Hodore

Camp Chief: **Polly Shields**

Come and enjoy a fast-paced 3-night camp in the beautiful bluebell woods at Hodore. We will make friends, build fires, eat in circles, have fun, sing songs, sleep well, wake early and pack as much as we can into our 72 hours. Come and see how much fun you can have with people you've only just met! This is a camp for everyone, and is particularly good for FSC first timers and people with limited mobility.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for active children with special needs due to learning difficulties or physical disabilities.

Ages: **6.6 - 17.11**

Dates: **Fri 30th April - Mon 3rd May**

Travel: **Coach from Brixton, London**

Fees: **Group E**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4



Whitsun & Early Summer Camps

8 Whitsun at Hodore

Camp Chiefs: **Bates Abbott & Davy Starkey**

A week not to miss.
Friends to make and skills to learn.
Memories to gather together to treasure.
Fires to build and fabulous food to feast on.
Songs to sing and trees to climb.
Stars galore, circles of sixty or more.
A hike to delight and unite.
Come prepared for rainbows.
For lovers of the traditional and random, old and new,
this isn't a camp without you.
Life is smashing when you're living in a tent.
Extra info: This camp actively welcomes and will celebrate all campers including those with disabilities or other difficulties.

Ages: **6.6 - 17.11**
Dates: **Sat 29th May - Sat 5th June**
Travel: **Coach from London**
Fees: **Group F**
Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

9 Fed Up of London Again

Camp Chief: **Julian Ford**

Come to Wales and enjoy the weather wet or dry? We hope to sunbathe, have fun and fit a full fortnight activities in to one week or if the weather isn't as good then we can mud wallow and still fit everything in just slightly damper.

Ages: **9.0 - 17.11**
Dates: **Sat 29th May - Sat 5th June**
Travel: **Coach from London**
Fees: **Group F**
Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4



10 Whitsun in Wiltshire

Camp Chiefs: **Jess Mace & Ben McCarthy**

Join us for a wonderful week of woodcraft, games and merriment in glorious Wiltshire. Bring your energy, ideas and enthusiasm and join us in making a lodge where we create our own entertainment and look out for each other. Campers of all ability are welcome.
Extra info: This camp is suitable for active children with special needs due to learning difficulties or physical disabilities.

Ages: **6.6 - 17.11**
Dates: **Sat 29th May to Sat 5th June**
Travel: **Coach from London**
Fees: **Group F**
Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

11 Mid Wales Walking Mobile

Camp Chief: **Jenny Dingle**

This will be a walking expedition (full packs) exploring the beautiful valleys and hills of mid Wales, we'll walk every day. But, rather than going long distances, we'll aim for everybody to get the time and help they need to learn, practice and enjoy mobile (hike) skills like: map reading, using stoves, packing well, lighting fires, working together in a small lodge and staying cheerful while walking in the rain.

Ages: **11 - 17.11**
Dates: **Sat 29th May - Sat 5th June**
Travel: **Train from London to Machynlleth or possibly Tywyn**
Fees: **Group F**
Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

12 Great Ouse Canoe Weekend

Camp Chiefs: **Hazel Powell & Julian Brown**

Do you enjoy being on and in the water? If so come and try canoeing. We will learn to control our boats in fast water whilst paddling upstream to Newport Pagnell. This weekend is a good introduction to the way we camp on summer canoe treks, as we will be shopping and cooking in small groups on Trangias and primuses. We will share this riverside site with a staff training group.
Extra info: All campers must be able to swim 50 meters.

Ages: **10 - 17.11**
Dates: **Fri 4th June - Sun 6th June**
Travel: **Train from Euston to Wolverton**
Fees: **Group B**
Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

13 Pathfinder Skills & Glee Camp

Camp Chiefs:
Tom Bennett & Corine Howells

This will be a hugely enjoyable weekend, packed with skills and glee. You'll be up early and exhausted by sundown, having had the opportunity to both learn new skills and songs, and build confidence in ones you already know. The focus will be on firefighting, shelter building and map reading, with all the attendant skills required to do these things. Then you will spend one night off site in small groups to put it all into practice.
Extra info: This camp is for Pathfinders only

Ages: **16 - 17.11**
Dates: **Fri 2nd July - Sun 4th July**
Travel: **Coach from Paddington, London**
Fees: **Group B**
Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4



Please send your applications for these camps to
FSC Enrolments, PO BOX 3185, London, SW18 3JG
Please check dates of camps carefully

Summer Camps

Please note Summer Camp dates carefully:

1st Fortnight Summer Camp dates are Thursday 29th July to Wednesday 11th August

2nd Fortnight Summer Camp dates are Sunday 15th August to Saturday 28th August*

*except Camp no 33 which runs from Sunday 15th to Wednesday 25th of August and Camp

No 35 which runs from Tuesday 17th to Monday 30th of August

Because of the large number of applications for children's places for these camps, and the need to ensure that the camps are well balanced and not too large, we cannot guarantee a place for all applicants wanting to go on main summer camps. You stand a better chance of getting a place if you opt for a second fortnight camp.

This year we are running a Pathfinder skills & glee weekend camp in early July.

See previous section for details.

1st Fortnight Camps



20 Harlech 1

Let's have some Fun!

Camp Chiefs:

John Bradshaw & Patrick Hamann

Organiser: **Sophie Holloway-Hintzen**

Come and join us in the magical hills of north-west Wales surrounded by castles, caves and long sandy beaches. Leaving the bore of our daily lives at home to come and live and learn together in harmony. What we do, where we go, how we play and even what we eat is all in YOUR control. Come with energy and humour to make your dreams come true, whether its sleeping in trees or relaxing in the river, we've got something for everyone!

Extra info: This camp is suitable for active children with special needs due to learning difficulties or physical disabilities.

Ages: **9 - 17.11**

Dates: **Thurs 29th July to Wed 11th Aug**

Travel: **Train from London Euston to Llandudno Junction**

Fees: **Group G**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

21 South Cornwall 1

Camp Chiefs: **Andy Doyle & Leslie Holden**

A full range standing camp set in this dramatic secluded place. We aim to grow a creative, active and caring community with the skills and spirits everyone has to give. Come ready to enjoy the summer, mud flood or sunshine; to meet old and new friends of all ages and to care for the countryside which gives us adventure, beauty and so much else.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for active children with special needs due to learning difficulties or physical disabilities.

Ages: **6.6 - 17.11**

Dates: **Thurs 29th July to Wed 11th Aug**

Travel: **Coach from London**

Fees: **Group G**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

22 Farndale 1

Camp Chiefs:

Daphne Carré & Lawrence Higgens

This is your chance to come and experience the dramatic landscape of the beautiful Yorkshire Moors. There are lots of opportunities for hikes and a small stream where we can paddle and play. We will aim to build a caring community with lots of singing and creative activities. Come and join us for 2 weeks, during which we will challenge ourselves to all learn something new, kindle old acquaintances and make new friends.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for active children with special needs due to learning difficulties or physical disabilities.

Ages: **6.6 - 17.11**

Dates: **Thurs 29th July to Wed 11th Aug**

Travel: **Coach from London**

Fees: **Group G**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4



Please apply to camp 9-20 directly to John Bradshaw, 214 Allesley Old Road, Coventry, CV5 8GJ.

For all other summer camps, please apply on the 'Summer Enrolment Application Form' and send to FSC Summer Enrolments, 2 Hall Fold, Thurgoland, Sheffield. S35 7EA

23 Radnor Afon 1

Camp Chief: **Nell Cameron**

The smell of wood smoke, the feel of sun on your face and rain on your waterproofs. The sound of laughter, singing and the sight of a circle of new friends. What do you want to learn, explore and experience? Come and help create a riverside community that plays and learns together, is able to live in a field with the skills we have and share, feeds and cares for each other, enjoys our differences and celebrates our achievements.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for active children with special needs due to learning difficulties or physical disabilities.

Ages: **9 - 17.11**

Dates: **Thurs 29th July - Wed 11th Aug**

Travel: **Coach from London**

Fees: **Group G**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

24 Dinas 1

Camp Chiefs:

Angei Scoble & Gwynnie Griffiths

Warm yourself by the fire, cool yourself in the rain. Come and frolic in the fields of this magical Welsh valley. We'll work and play together to build a traditional Lodge where you'll find: singing, stories, night games, hot cocoa, a waterfall, friends, and blue blue skies. And you can: explore, whittle, axe, share, kindle, sing, build, play, wonder, act, shelter, imagine and amaze.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for active children with special needs due to learning difficulties or physical disabilities.

Ages: **6 - 17.11**

Dates: **Thurs 29th July - Wed 11th Aug**

Travel: **Coach from London**

Fees: **Group G**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

Please send your applications for these camps to:
FSC Summer Enrolments, PO BOX 3185, London, SW18 3JG
Please check dates of camps carefully

25 Stonking It at Stockton

Camp Chiefs:

Anna Hudson & Rory Blackman

Come and join us in creating a Wonderous and Stonking community where we will all be working, playing and learning together at this great camp site in the beautiful Wiltshire countryside. Consensus will be the order of the day. Come with your dressing up clothes, musical instruments, juggling balls etc. Bring your ideas, enthusiasm and a smile. Come and make this the camp we all want and deserve.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for active children with special needs due to learning difficulties or physical disabilities.

Ages: **6 - 17.11**

Dates: **Thurs 29th July - Wed 11th Aug**

Travel: **Coach from London**

Fees: **Group G**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4





26 Cork and Kinsale Adventure

PLEASE NOTE THE EARLIER LEAVING DATE OF CAMP 26 & 27

Camp Chiefs:
Frances Rainford & Stefan Baker

27 Wild Side

Camp Chiefs:
Dave Monk & Patsy Nightingale

Be prepared to start the camp with your sleeping bag out and trying to nap as we cross the rolling seas. This camp is for those who seek something different, as we will be having at least two hikes to take in the beautiful countryside that is Southern Ireland. Bring your boots, binoculars and water-proofs as we explore this wonderful country looking for leprechauns and dolphins.

Did you have that dream about finding a wild beach, swimming in foaming seas, discovering deserted dunes and staring at starry nights, yes we did too so get on board to an animated standing camp on a Hebridean Island.

Extra Info: This camp is for experienced campers aged 10 and over only.

Ages: **12 - 17.11**
 Dates: **Wed 28th July - Wed 11th Aug**
 Travel: **From London by coach and boat**
 Fees: **Group H**
 Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

Ages: **10 - 17.11**
 Dates: **Wed 28th July - Wed 11th Aug**
 Travel: **Coach from London to Swansea, overnight ferry and then coach to the site arriving early Thursday morning**
 Fees: **Group H**
 Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

Please send your applications for these camps to:
 FSC Summer Enrolments, PO BOX 3185, London, SW18 3JG
 Please check dates of camps carefully

2nd Fortnight Camps

Please note Summer Camp dates carefully:

1st Fortnight Summer Camp dates are Thurs 29th July - Wed 11th Aug

2nd Fortnight Summer Camp dates are Sun 15th Aug - Sat 28th Aug*

*except Camp no.33 which runs from Sun 15th Aug - Wed 25th Aug and Camp no.35 which runs from Tues 17th Aug - Mon 30th Aug

30 Harlech 2

Camp Chiefs:

Joe Francis & Lisa Hallgarten

Let's get dirty, noisy and silly on the hills of beautiful wild Wales. Let's learn new woodcraft skills, see how little stuff we need to survive, and how to make what we haven't got. Let's learn new songs, new stories, new jokes and really old jokes ('How many boy scouts does it take to change a light bulb?' answers on a postcard). Let's learn not to overuse the word 'let's' - it's so Enid Blyton.....

Extra info: This camp is suitable for active children with special needs due to learning difficulties or physical disabilities.

Ages: **6.6 - 17.11**

Dates: **Sun 15th Aug - Sat 28th Aug**

Travel: **Train and Coach from London**

Fees: **Group g**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

32 Farndale Two

Camp Chiefs: **Ben Keith & Ed Straw**

The site is in the North York Moors. It's remote, quite high, and sometimes steep. Walk straight onto the eerie moors, up to the waterfall or down to the dale, famous for its daffodils. Camp is a privilege. How it turns out depends on how we turn up. The farm is full of character. We share the fields with benign nature: sheep, spiders, grouse, grass, streams, earth, and, back at home, some of this rubs off on us so we live more in harmony with our delicate planet. We will explore participatory decision-making, hearing our emotions, and the light. Create, shout and sustain.

Ages: **6 - 17.11**

Dates: **Sun 15th Aug - Sat 28th Aug**

Travel: **Train Kings Cross to York, coach to site**

Fees: **Group G**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

33 The Milliners of Distinction

Camp Chief: **Nick Steed**

This will be a traditional standing camp with all that you would expect, that caring, sharing, looking out for each other feeling, but with hats on. We will try and find the time to design, decorate, fold, build, sculpt, weave, felt and generally construct hats of all sorts the only limits being our own imaginations, so come along enjoying the fun and go home looking as if you are ready for Ascot. Special requirements for this camp; at least 1 hat.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for active children with special needs due to learning difficulties or physical disabilities.

Ages: **6 - 17.11**

Dates: **Sun 15th Aug - Wed 25th Aug**

Travel: **Coach from London**

Fees: **Group F**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

Please note the dates: this is a 10 day camp

34 The Mark Twain Camping Experiment

Camp Chiefs: **Rad Wagon & Craig Grady**

This is a normal standing camp. It's also a bit of an experiment. From Rushall's dingy dell, using ancient byways that bedraggle the local hills we'll explore a little each day by bike. How about Pea Fair in a large barn, followed by Merrymoot under an enormous spreading oak? Clan games from the top of the local hill fort to the river in the valley?

You don't need to have cycled with FSC before but will need a mountain bike with rack and panniers for hike as well as a sense of adventure.

Ages: **12 - 17.11**

Dates: **Sun 15th Aug - Sat 28th Aug**

Travel: **Coach from London**

Fees: **Group G**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

35 Scottish Mountain Mobile

Camp Chief: **David Hillebrandt**

This will be a challenging and rewarding mountain mobile camp where the route will remain vague and will continue to change as the camp progresses. Whilst enjoying the spectacular scenery of Scotland, we will be at the mercy of the elements - wind, rain, mist, midges and possibly some sun - as we cross over 100 miles of rough mountain terrain and ascend several peaks over 3000ft (1000m), occasionally with full packs.

The emphasis will be on self reliance and teaching by sharing mountain skills in small groups, but meeting as a lodge in remote glens most evenings. By the second week, as skills increase, campers should be able to move and camp in unaccompanied groups and the more confident among us may attempt some scrambles involving short roped sections.

Extra info: Campers should note that that this will be a strenuous mobile camp and will be physically demanding. Full mobile equipment and the ability to carry several days food between food dumps is essential. Feel free to contact David Hillebrandt (details in the contacts section) if you want more information before applying. It is possible that we may have a Brecon Beacons training weekend in early summer.

Ages: **13 - 17.11**

Dates: **Tues 17th Aug - Mon 30th Aug**

Travel: **Train from London**

Fees: **Group G**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

Please send your applications for these camps to:
FSC Summer Enrolments, PO BOX 3185, London, SW18 3JG
Please check dates of camps carefully







Autumn Camps

36 Mountain Mayhem

Camp Chiefs: **John & Roger Bradshaw**

Need a challenge? If so come and spend autumn half term walking in the lake district. If it blows a gale we will stay low but fair weather will send us onto higher ground. We will wild camp on the second night. So come and join us for an active and challenging 4 days in the mountains of Cumbria!

Extra info: This camp will be physically demanding so please only apply if you feel you can manage 4 days walking in the mountains carrying all that you need!

Ages: **14 - 17.11**

Dates: **Tues 26th - Fri 29th Oct**

Travel: **Train journey, London Euston to Windermere. Minibus from Windermere to Kirkstone pass**

Fees: **Group C**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

37 Mendip Caving Training

Camp Chief: **Flow Stone**

We will go underground to remember or learn about the wonderful Mendip caves in readiness for the Mendip caving camp. The training is for experienced older Tracker and Pathfinder cavers who would like to extend their skills and knowledge so they can help others on camp. Also a good chance for staff new to caving to try it before staffing a caving camp.

Extra info: This camp is for experienced cavers only.

Ages: **15 - 17.11**

Dates: **Fri 15th - Sun 17th Oct**

Travel: **Campers to make their own way to the site** (lifts will be arranged wherever possible)

Fees: **Group A**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4

38 Mendip Caving

Camp Chiefs:

Giles Vellacott & Helen Spencer

Returning to Priddy as the ideal centre – lots of caves from the safest and driest to the more adventurous, wet and muddy. We will learn to work and have fun together and face challenges safely. This camp is a good choice for those with FSC experience but new to caving, for 11 year olds to staff. We will get a day's walk over the Mendip hills, probably a night game and camp fire as well.

Ages: **11 - 17.11**

Dates: **23rd Oct - 27th Oct**

Travel: **Escort party from Bristol Temple Meads only – We can help coordinate travel.** (campers to pay cost)

Fees: **Group E**

Please refer to Camp Fees section on page 4



Please send your applications for these camps to:
FSC Summer Enrolments, PO BOX 3185, London, SW18 3JG
Please check dates of camps carefully

Associate Membership of FSC

Parents and supporters who become Associate Members of FSC receive news of FSC's activities in an annual newsletter. There are weekend family camps especially for Associate Members and their families. The annual subscription is £5. The Associate Members' Secretary will send you a form and further details on request.

Associate Members and FSC staff are all welcome at family camps, with or without their children. There is no age limit, upper or lower, and these camps are particularly suitable for very young children who may be camping for the first time. Supervision of the children is the responsibility of their parents, and there is no organised travel, allowing us to keep the fees to a minimum. Parents and children share in the communal cooking, with food and cooking equipment provided by the camp. There will be many of the usual FSC activities like rally, singing around the campfire, games, walks, and whatever the site and our ingenuity can produce.

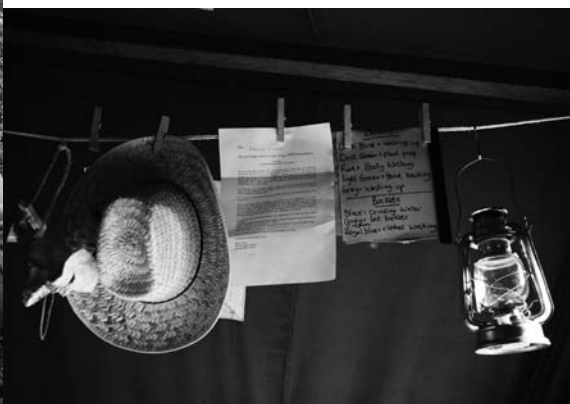
To apply for a family camp please use the form sent to all Associate Members, or download application form from the downloads section of our website. Please note that these camps get booked up quickly, so don't delay in applying.

Associate Members' Secretary
Nelleke van Helfteren
7 Victoria Road
Colchester
CO3 3NT
Email: associates@fsc.org.uk

Southern Camps Organiser
Lorna English
55 Grosvenor Avenue
Newcastle-upon-Tyne
NE22 2NP

Northern Camps Organisers
David and Hilary Hughes
Malkin House
Brow Lane
Holmfirth
West Yorkshire
HD71RJ

NB: A parent who becomes an Associate Member or attends a family camp does not give their child any priority on the waiting list to attend any of our main camps.



Associate Camps

40 Chiltern Chill Associates camp

Camp Chiefs:
Quentin Rea & Adrian Matthews

FSC has been developing its relationship with the community at Braziers Park, deep in the beautiful south Oxfordshire countryside, for a number of years but this is a new spot for our associate camping. At Brazier's we have the space for wide games, woods for walking and stalking and even a barn for some evening entertainment. What more could you want? Compost loos? They have those as well so you're all excused lat digging. The camp will be a great way to get a little taster of FSC whether you're new to camping or a seasoned old pro. Suitable for all ages and abilities, this will be a vegetarian camp.

Dates: **Fri 30th April - Mon 3rd May**



41 Assington Elementals Associates Camp

Camp Chiefs:
Nelleke van Helfteren & Helen Scadding

Another glorious May weekend is forecast in this lovely valley in south Suffolk. Come and spend some time with us messing about with water, fire, earth and air. And some wood. A lot of wood. Should prove fun.

Dates: **Fri 28th May - Mon 31st May**

42 Solstice at Assington Associates Camp

Camp Chiefs:
Lucy Jaffe & Caroline Whalley

Another glorious June weekend is forecast in this lovely valley in south Suffolk. Come and spend some time with us messing about with water, fire, earth and air. And some wood. A lot of wood. Should prove fun.

Dates: **Fri 18th June - Sun 20th June**

43 Ribblesdale Associate Camp

Camp Chief: **Liz Grayson**

We are returning to the Ribblesdale site for a weekend of walking, cooking, singing, country dancing and possibly swimming in the river – meeting old friends and getting to know new ones. This site is in a beautiful situation in the Yorkshire dales on the edge of Horton in Ribblesdale, 5 minutes walk from the station.

Dates: **Fri 18th June - Sun 20th June**

44 Gormire Associate Camp

Camp Chief: **Jacky Scott-Combes**

This will be a traditional FSC camp, with lots of opportunities for making things with wood, singing, music, dancing, and no doubt some fun with costume and a rich tale, maybe of Robin Hood, as we are told he was in the locality of our likely camp site. We will cook over open wood fires, sing round the camp fire, may be a pea fair, walk and other lodge activities.

Dates: **Thurs 26th Aug - Mon 30th Aug**



FSC Stores at Haddenham

What is FSC Stores?

All the equipment used on our camps is stored and maintained at our Haddenham Stores centre near Ely in Cambridgeshire, where enthusiastic working parties gather regularly throughout the year. In each of ten months of the year there is a Stores weekend, at which we clean and repair our equipment as well as pack and unpack all the equipment sent out to camps. In the other two months of the year, at Easter and in August, there are House weekends when we work on improving the buildings and grounds.

Can I come?

All the weekends are fantastic social occasions and any and all additional pairs of hands are always needed and very welcome. At Stores weekends all staff and Pathfinders are welcome. Pathfinders need the written consent of their parent or guardian in order to attend; an appropriate form is available on the FSC website (in Downloads) or can be obtained from Domini Hawthorn. Please apply for the House weekend camps as for other Conservation and Skills camps.

How do I get there?

A minibus usually runs from London, and there are regular attendees travelling from all around the country who may be able to offer lifts, or we can arrange to get you picked up from Ely station.

Who can tell me more?

For dates of, or any information regarding, the Stores weekends, please contact the FSC Stores person:

Domini Hawthorn

42 Argyle Street
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN2 8AR
stores@fsc.org.uk



For any queries regarding travel to or from, or catering at, Stores weekends, please contact the Haddenham Hostess:

hostess@fsc.org.uk

Conservation and Skills Camps

At camp we may take the fabric of the countryside for granted, but conservation and skills camps give us the chance to redress that balance a little. These camps are generally run over weekends, and involve all kinds of tasks: coppicing, hedging, path laying, and repairing or reconstructing traditional farm buildings.

FSC conservation and skills camps are cheap, convivial and confidence-building. They are run on similar lines to small standing camps. The camps are generally planned for the over-sixteens, with no upper age limit of course, but families with younger children are also very welcome.

There are no special qualifications for volunteers. Everyone can contribute to ensuring that the camp is an enjoyable and memorable experience. In fact it's a great opportunity to try your hand at glee or catering as well as woodcraft.

There are no fees or charges. You travel independently to the camp site and will be asked to contribute the appropriate amount for the running costs of the camp. This is usually about £4.00 per day to cover food. You need a tent, old clothes, and waterproofs.

Volunteers from abroad and older campers new to FSC are especially welcome. Week-long camps may qualify for the residential requirement of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme (Gold).

We cannot offer any financial return - but the good company of like-minded adults of all ages keeps many people coming back time and again.

For further information or to enrol please contact the FSC Conservation and skills camps Secretary (email is preferred):

Tim Abbott

Acorn, Mill Lane,
Padworth, Reading
RG7 4JX
conservation@fsc.org.uk



Conservation and Skills Camps

50 Danbury Woodchuck

Camp Leaders and Organisers: **Sophie Nathan & Leo Murray**

How much wood could a Woodchuck chuck if a Woodchuck could chuck wood? This and other important questions about wood are sure to be answered during our annual knees up for all things wooding. With singing and home baking. Bring your hands.

Ages: **18+ unless accompanied by a parent or guardian**

Dates: **Fri 19th Mar - Sun 21st Mar**

51 & 54 Spring / Autumn at Rushall Manor Farm

Rushall Spring (51): Camp Chief: **Martin Powell**, Camp Leader: **Matt Knight**

Rushall Autumn (54): Camp Chief: **Janet Powell**, Camp Leader: **Lucy Roberts**

Dates (51): **Fri 26th Mar - Sun 28 Mar**

Dates (54): **Fri 22nd Oct - Sun 24th Oct**

Ages: **16+ unless accompanied by a parent or guardian**

The John Simmonds Trust continues its rural community education projects at the Golden Valley site near Pangbourne. We will help with their path clearing, tree planting and access improvement projects to aid their progress.

Pathfinders wishing to attend camps 51-54 unaccompanied will require written consent. The appropriate form can be downloaded from the FSC website (downloads section).

52 & 53 Spring / Late Summer at Brazier's Park

Camp Leader: **Henry MacKeith**
Camp Chief: **Rad Wagon**

Dates (52): **Fri 30th Apr - Sun 2nd May**

Dates (53): **Fri 24th Sep - Sun 26th Sep**

Ages: **16+ unless accompanied by a parent or guardian**

We continue to develop our relationship with the Community at Brazier's Park near Reading. Over spring and late summer weekends we will help support projects in perma-culture and other kinds of sustainable approaches to country living.



Fenwood

Fenwood is part of the stores site at Haddenham near Ely, Cambridgeshire. FSC planted the 2.4ha (8.5 acre) field in 2006 as an educational woodland. Go to website for satellite views!! Our intention is that this woodland site can be used for mainstream camps and for the learning of outdoor skills.

At present the trees are young and need caring for. They are protected by fencing and sheep keep the grass down meaning that we are already able to camp on the site. We have 3 weekends a year when we dedicate efforts to the care of the trees and the surrounding field areas. When the works are over there's plenty of time to play. Staff and Pathfinders are very very welcome at these weekends. Pathfinders will need written consent of their parent or guardian in order to attend (an appropriate form is available on the FSC website (in downloads) or can be obtained from Dave Monk.

These are work w/e's for FSC and as such some expenses may be claimed. If you would like to enjoy any or all of these weekends, please contact Dave Monk at dave_vee12@yahoo.co.uk

FSC Regional Groups

Over the years, FSC staff have set up informal, regionally based groups which meet and run occasional weekend camps.

Western Region

We camp together occasionally, having camped near Abergavenny and by the River Wye near Hereford over the last few years. We've also had a walking mobile on the Quantocks and a cycling mobile across the Somerset Levels over May bank holiday weekends. Dates and sites for 2010 have yet to be decided, but if you would like to find out more, or be involved in some way, please contact us.

Tom Bennett
58 Foxcote Road
Ashton
Bristol
BS3 2BZ
western.region@fsc.org.uk



Preparing for Camp

Equipment

You probably already own most of the things you need for a standing camp. Warm, well-worn clothing is required. The only essential extras are a sleeping bag and really effective waterproofs; we don't always take shelter when it rains. We ask that families who continue to camp with us try to supply at least one two-person tent. Full details of what to bring to standing camps are given in the kit list section. For mobile camps some more specialist equipment may be required; see extra notes in the kit list, but full details will be sent to you by your camp organiser.

Tetanus

We ask that all campers are fully protected against tetanus well before camp. The pre-school tetanus course lasts for ten years and the school-leaving booster lasts until age 25.

Life Jackets

We make it a firm policy that life jackets or buoyancy aids are worn when children are canoeing, sailing or rafting with FSC. We will provide them. Our policy is not to wear buoyancy aids when narrow-boating.

Travel

Escorted parties travel between London and our camps. The expected departure and destination stations are listed under each camp. Final details of times and meeting places will be sent in a pre-camp circular a few weeks before camp. Campers may arrange to join the escorted party at any station at which the train stops, but those doing so will be asked to purchase their own tickets to and from the destination. A travel refund will be made.

Insurance

Forest School Camps takes responsibility only for the activities listed in this programme. Forest School Camps insures for its liabilities at law. While all possible care is taken to avoid accidents, Forest School Camps does not insure for personal accident or for loss or damage to personal property. Those who are not already insured for personal accident and for all risks in respect of personal effects may wish to make their own arrangements.

Children and staff of camps which travel to foreign countries, including the Republic of Ireland, are covered by a comprehensive travel policy which includes medical treatment as well as loss and damage to personal effects, subject, of course, to the usual limitations and exclusions. The cost of this insurance is included in the camp fee. Details of the insurance scheme can be provided on request. Forest School Camps is not able to insure you if you have not been permanently resident in the United Kingdom for 12 months prior to effecting the insurance. In such cases you must provide us with evidence of suitable cover effected in your country of residence and you will receive a refund equivalent to the insurance premium that would have been paid on your behalf.

Alcohol and illegal drugs

Please ensure that your child does not bring any alcohol to camp. Illegal drugs are not tolerated at camp and we ask you to work with us by preventing your child from bringing illegal substances to camp. If it is discovered that a child has brought illegal substances to camp we reserve the right to send the child home and to refuse to enrol him or her on future camps.

Further information

You will receive a pre-camp circular a few weeks before camp. This will include further information including use of mobile phones, Weil's disease, our internet policy and our alcohol policy in addition to other information from your camp chief and/ or organisers. Please ensure you and your child read and discuss this important information prior to camp where appropriate.

Camp Kit List

On camp we live out in the elements. Staying warm and dry on a wet day, or not suffering from sunburn after a hot one, makes a big difference to a child's enjoyment of camp. Learning to live comfortably in the outdoors in all weathers is an important part of camp life.

Please make sure your child is well prepared for all conditions. The kit list below is a distillation of our experience and is meant as a helpful guide for you and your child to ensure they are appropriately equipped at camp.

General Notes

Reasonably priced equipment is available from several high street camping shops – it is not necessary to invest in the best or most expensive equipment for camp, but do make sure that what you buy is fit for purpose. Very cheap discount equipment often does not stand up to the rigours of camp life and may leave your camper cold, wet and unhappy. Also, please don't bring treasured items that are delicate or vulnerable to water or dirt.

Loss of equipment and packing

A distressing amount of personal equipment is lost at camp. There are a few simple strategies to prevent this:

- Labelling – all clothing and equipment should be indelibly labelled with the camper's name.
- All campers should be involved in their packing. A surprising number of items are lost because the camper did not know that they brought them in the first place, or did not know where they were packed.
- Efficient packing. Please make sure that your camper's equipment is packed inside no more than 3 bags – multiple items increase the chance of loss, and items strapped or tied on to the top of bags are at risk of coming off and being lost. In addition to a rucsac, a canvas bag, kitbag, or zipped holdall is good for remaining luggage. Line all luggage with waterproof bags – rubble sacks or strong bin liners are great for this. Inside these, it is a good idea to separate different types of clothing and put them in different, supermarket-style plastic bags – one each for underwear, socks, tops, trousers, jumpers, etc. Label these bags to show their contents and it's much easier for your child (and their group staff) to find what they need, rather than rummaging around in an enormous sack.

CLOTHING (for a one-week camp. For a fortnight camp, pack double quantities of trousers and thick socks. This is especially necessary for under-11s).

- rainwear (Note 1)
- footwear (Note 2)
- 3 warm tops (sweatshirts etc)
- 4 pairs of trousers/jeans (Note 3) (8 for a fortnight for under-11s)
- 2 warm woollen jerseys or fleeces
- thick socks, 2 pairs (4 for a fortnight for under-11s)
- pyjamas/track suit

- swimming costume
- sunhat
- woollen hat and gloves
- handkerchiefs/tissues
- shorts/dress/skirt (optional)

And depending on the length of camp, an appropriate number of...

- light tops (T-shirts etc) (Note 3)
- socks (minimum 6 for a week, 10 for a fortnight – they get wet!)
- underclothing

EQUIPMENT

- lightweight tent (Note 4)
- groundsheet (Note 5) *
- sleeping bag (Note 6)
- rucsac (Note 7)
- Ordnance Survey map (1:25000)*
- compass* ('Silva' type recommended)

MISCELLANEOUS

- cloth bag containing:
- plastic mug
- deep plate
- knife, fork and spoon
- sponge bag containing:

- flannel, soap and nailbrush
- toothbrush and paste
- comb/hairbrush
- towels, two medium size
- torch and spare batteries (Note 8)
- penknife (Note 9)
- notebook and pencil
- paper and stamps (for writing home)
- plastic bags / bin liners (for keeping things clean and dry)
- sunblock
- insect repellent*
- musical instrument*
- 'dressing up' clothes*
- materials for making things (e.g. embroidery thread)*

* optional

Note 1: Rainwear

Every camper should have a complete set of rainwear. Several types of garment are suitable for camp, but the essential features of them all are that they are completely waterproof, and that headwear (a hood or hat) and waterproof trousers are included. If possible test your camper's waterproofs under the shower or garden hose (but remember if you selected badly you may not be able to return them to the shop after this!)

Suitable types of rainwear include those made from;

- PVC – This is tough, suitable for young children, and completely waterproof if somewhat heavy and a bit bulkier.
- Proofed nylon - Check that the proofing is waterproof e.g. neoprene lining, and that the seams are taped to ensure they are waterproof.
- Breathable "Gore-Tex" or similar garments are also suitable if fully waterproof, but bear in mind they are more expensive and should be 3 layer (rather than 2) so that they stand up to the harsh treatment they may receive at camp.
- Rubberised fabric or oilskins are tough and waterproof, but heavier.

AVOID: Light weight nylon cagoules with chemically treated seams – they will leak after anything more than a shower; "Barbour" or other similar waxed jackets – they are not waterproof in sustained wet conditions and are expensive.

Note 2: Footwear

Even at standing camps we do a lot of rough walking, so footwear must be comfortable. Leather walking boots are ideal as they provide ankle support, good foot protection, and have good grip in most conditions. For younger children, sturdy trainers with a good grip may be adequate. As it is often wet underfoot, Wellingtons are recommended for all campers and are ESSENTIAL for the under 11s – make sure they are big enough to accommodate thick socks, and that they tuck inside your waterproof trousers.

In addition, campers may wish to have some lighter footwear for wearing around camp e.g. light trainers, plimsolls, sandals or similar.

All footwear must be well walked-in before camp.

Note 3: Shirt/Top and Trousers

Jeans are tough but terrible to wear when wet, so bring a variety of types of trousers. Track-suit bottoms are ideal. Fleece trousers are great on cold days. Bear in mind that synthetic fibres dry quickly – cotton stays wet and cold for ages.

At least one light top should be long sleeved with a collar to protect against the sun by day, and insects by night.

Clothing that can be worn in many layers is much more flexible, and allows adjustment to the weather and conditions better.

Note 4: Tents

FSC holds a limited supply of small tents which we can lend to campers at standing camps. Those who continue to camp will want to get a tent of their own.

Tents should be fully waterproof, and should have 2 layers – an inner and a flysheet. Single layer nylon tents will not withstand heavy rain and are unsuitable.

Tents should be suitable for at least 2 people but also remember that they may need to be carried on hike or mobile camps. Both A frame (less common now, and more costly), and dome tents are suitable subject to the previous conditions.

When choosing a tent, make sure it is both stable and waterproof in windy conditions (if the flysheet and inner tent can touch in the wind, it will leak). If flexible poles are used, alloy are stronger than fibreglass, but will increase the cost.

An entrance porch is useful for removal and storage of wet clothing and boots under shelter. Porches also help keep the inner tent dry when getting in on a rainy day.

Please make sure your camper is able to pitch their own tent before sending them to camp with it.

Note 5: Groundsheet

A separate groundsheet is useful for sleeping out and sitting on.

Note 6: Sleeping bag

Synthetic (e.g. 'Hollowfill') sleeping bags are recommended for most campers as they retain much of their effectiveness when damp, are easier to clean, and less costly. However, some older more experienced campers may prefer down bags which are warmer for the weight, and pack smaller, although they require more care. Sleeping bags are rated by warmth as 1-5 seasons, and we recommend 3 seasons or above for general camp use.

We recommend that all sleeping bags should be used with sheet linings – either cotton or fleece (avoid thin synthetic linings as they are less comfortable and offer little extra insulation).

The use of an insulating mat between the sleeping bag and the groundsheet will add significantly to warmth of the sleeper. Camp beds and lilos are bulky and unsuitable for camp. We recommend that two sleeping bags be used at Easter and autumn camps. All bedding should be packed into a thick polythene bag or sack.

Note 7: Rucsac

Most importantly, a rucsac should fit the owner comfortably, and be able carry the essentials depending on age, namely sleeping bag, spare clothes, waterproofs, eating things, and some food and water on hike. Rucsacs are graded by capacity, and as a rough guide, consider 35-40 litres for smaller children and 50-65 litres for larger ones. It is worth testing a rucsac fully loaded before camp, preferably when trying it on in the shop, and always line it

with a waterproof liner – rubble sacks are a cheap and effective solution.

Many campers will not be able to pack all their equipment in a single rucsac. See the general notes above concerning additional luggage.

Note 8: Torch

Good lightweight torches are widely available. Torches will need to be carried on hike so don't bring a massive searchlight, and remember the spare batteries.

Note 9: Penknife

A simple penknife or single-bladed folding knife is useful. Extra gadgets on a penknife will increase the price more than the usefulness. A lanyard, chain, or length of string is strongly recommended for attaching the knife to a belt as a safeguard against loss. Pack your knife in your rucsac for the escort journey – it will not be needed and is liable to be lost.

Under Tens

Our experience at camp convinces us that the under tens need extra underwear, socks and two pairs of pyjamas (three for a fortnight). Waterproofs should be large enough for the tops to fit comfortably over several layers, and the bottoms to fit over wellingtons.

Mobile Camps

Lightweight tents, cooking stoves, fuel containers and billies are needed. A tent should have a flysheet, a sewn-in groundsheet and should ideally weigh less than 1.5 kg per person sharing it. You will normally be expected to supply at least one of the above items. Your camp chief will supply a complete specialised kit list and can advise you what to buy (or borrow).

When packing for walking mobiles, all your kit (with some space left for food) must fit inside your rucsac. Strong, waterproof walking boots with Vibram soles, or similar, are essential; they must be comfortable and be well walked-in.

For canoeing mobiles, your kit has to be packed into several small waterproof bundles. Kitbags (maximum size 80cm by 30cm diameter) and a small frameless rucsac are best; anything larger will not fit into a canoe.

On cycling mobiles, all your kit must fit inside your panniers and saddle bags (leaving some space for food!).



New Staff

If you are over eighteen and you think FSC sounds like your sort of organisation, do give us a try. We can't offer much by way of money – just expenses – but the good company of like-minded adults of all ages keeps many people coming back time and again.

Some of our best staff are recruited by children returning from camp and urging their parents to join in the fun. We provide training in practical camping skills and also make sure that each camp has a balance of new and experienced staff so that each person can continue 'learning by doing'.

If you enjoy the open air, the company of children and being part of a community, come along to a weekend training camp, find out what's involved and see whether you enjoy it. Parents often have much needed experience in child care, younger staff have more energy for boisterous games and activities. Whether you're zany and imaginative or dull and dependable, we need your talents!

Training camps last for two or three days (generally over a bank holiday), and run alongside a regular camp. Before being offered space on a training weekend, we require that trainees have had a request for a police check submitted to the CRB.

For more details on weekend dates and the CRB process, and to receive an application form, please send your name, contact details (address, phone numbers, email) and date of birth to: **Kevin Hafter** new.staff@fsc.org.uk

30 Marlborough Road
Chiswick
London
W4 4ET



Forest School Camps is a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity.
Company Number 937722, Charity Number 306006.

Registered address: Forest School Camps, Hill Row Causeway, Haddenham, Ely CB6 3PA

Data Protection Statement: Information on FSC's database is held under the provision of the Data Protection Act. It is held exclusively for promoting the proper functioning of the charity, Forest School Camps.

Contacts

All our workers are voluntary and help Forest School Camps in their spare time. While every effort is made to deal with enrolments and correspondence promptly, some delays are unavoidable. Please only write to or e-mail our officers.

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Enrolment Secretaries:

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Summer Enrolments

FSC Summer Enrolments
PO Box 3185
London SW18 3JG
children@fsc.org.uk

Special Enrolments

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Camper Support (Financial)

Bron Feld and Ben McCarthy
camper.support@fsc.org.uk

For Conservation and Skills Camps,
please see page

Programme Requests and New Member

Enquiries
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W9 1EZ

Mountain Mobile Camp Enquiries

David Hillebrandt
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01409 253 814

FSC Website:
www.fsc.org.uk

Camp Dates

Camp Sites

No	Dates	Camp Name	Where (see map)	Ages	*Fee	Extra
				Group		Info
1	19.03.10 – 21.03.10	Devon Cave Training	Devon	15 - 17.11	A	E
50	19.03.10 – 21.03.10	Danbury Wooding	Danbury	18+	-	CS
51	26.03.10 – 28.03.10	Spring at Rushall Manor Farm	Rushall	16+	-	CS
2	02.04.10 – 09.04.10	Makin an Shakin	Danbury	9 -17.11	F	
3	02.04.10 – 09.04.10	Easter at Hodore	Hodore	6.6 - 17.11	F	*
4	07.04.10 – 11.04.10	Dartmoor Caving	Devon	11 - 17.11	F	
5	01.05.10 – 03.05.10	Venice	Venice	9 - 17.11	C	
52	30.04.10 – 02.05.10	Spring at Braziers Park	Braziers	16+	-	CS
6	30.04.10 – 03.05.10	In the Vale of the White Horse	Vale of White Horse	9 - 17.11	D	*
7	30.04.10 – 03.05.10	Spring Weekend at Hodore	Hodore	6.6 -13.11	D	*
40	30.04.10 – 03.05.10	Chiltern Chill Associates Camp	Braziers	Family	-	
41	28.05.10 – 31.05.10	Assington Elements Associates	Suffolk	Family	-	
8	29.05.10 – 05.06.10	They think it's all Hodore	Hodore	6.6 - 17.11	F	*
9	29.05.10 – 05.06.10	Fed up of London Again	Snowdonia	9 - 17.11	F	
10	29.05.10 – 05.06.10	Whitsun in Wiltshire	Stockton	6.6 - 17.11	F	*
11	29.05.10 – 05.06.10	Mid Wales Walking Mobile	-	11 - 17.11	F	E
12	04.06.10 – 06.06.10	Great Ouse Canoe Weekend	Canoe	10 - 17.11	B	
42	18.06.10 – 20.06.10	Solstice at Assington Associates	Suffolk	Family	-	
43	18.06.10 – 20.06.10	Ribblesdale Associates	Ribblesdale	Family	-	
13	02.07.10 – 04.07.10	Pathfinder Skills & Glee	Braziers	16 - 17.11	B	
20	29.07.10 – 11.08.10	Harlech 1 – Let's have some Fun!	Harlech	6.6 - 17.11	G	*
21	29.07.10 – 11.08.10	South Cornwall 1	South Cornwall	6.6 - 17.11	G	*
22	29.07.10 – 11.08.10	Farndale 1	Farndale	6.6 - 17.11	G	*
23	29.07.10 – 11.08.10	Radnor Afon 1	Radnor	6.6 - 17.11	G	*
24	29.07.10 – 11.08.10	Dinas	Dinas	6.6 - 17.11	G	*
25	29.07.10 – 11.08.10	Stonking It at Stockton	Stockton	6.6 - 17.11	G	*
26	28.07.10 – 11.08.10	Cork & Kinsale Adventure	Ireland	10 - 17.11	H	E
27	28.07.10 – 11.08.10	WILD SIDE	Hebrides	12 - 17.11	H	E
30	15.08.10 – 28.08.10	Harlech 2	Harlech	6.6 - 17.11	G	*
31	15.08.10 – 28.08.10	South Cornwall 2	South Cornwall	6.6 - 17.11	G	
32	15.08.10 – 28.08.10	Farndale 2	Farndale	6.6 - 17.11	G	
33	15.08.10 – 25.08.10	The Milliners of Distinction	Radnor	6.6 - 17.11	F	*
34	15.08.10 – 28.08.10	Mark Twain Camping Experiment	Rushall	12 - 17.11	G	E
35	17.08.10 – 30.08.10	Scottish Mountain Mobile	Scotland	13 - 17.11	G	E
44	26.08.10 – 30.08.10	Gormire Associates	Gormire	Family	-	
53	24.09.10 – 26.09.10	Autumn at Braziers Park	Braziers	16+	TBC	CS
54	22.10.10 – 24.10.10	Autumn at Rushall Manor Farm	Rushall	16+	-	CS
36	26.10.10 – 29.10.10	Mountain Mayhem	Cumbria	14 - 17.11	C	
37	26.10.10 – 29.10.10	Mendip Cave Training	Mendip	15 - 17.11	A	E
38	15.10.10 – 17.10.10	Mendip Caving	Mendip	11 - 17.11	E	
40	23.10.09 – 25.10.09	Autumn at Rushall Manor Farm	Rushall	16 +	TBC	CS



* Camp suitable for those with Special Needs

E = Experienced FSC campers only

CS = Conservation and Skills camps

A = Associate Camps

* Please refer to page 4 for fee information

