
FOREST SCHOOL CAMPS

An Adventure In Education



PROGRAMME
2014

Welcome

Welcome to the FSC Programme 2014.

Please read the programme carefully. The main points are highlighted below.

- Please read the important information pages carefully before applying for camp.
- Most 1st Fortnight Summer Camps run from Wednesday 30th July to Tuesday 12th August. Most 2nd Fortnight Summer Camps run from Thursday 14th to Wednesday 27th August.
- However there are camps with slightly different dates in both fortnights, so please make sure you check the dates of camps carefully.
- Please note the split of the age groups in the How to Enrol section.
- We are only able to offer new camp places to children of primary school age. In 2014 this means that potential first-time campers must have a date of birth between 01.09.2002 and 28.02.2008 and must have been registered with us before 30th November 2013.
- Please see the 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.

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About Forest School

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, others 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

Please read this section carefully before applying to camp, even if you are a seasoned camper.

You can only apply for camps on the personalised application forms, which have been sent to you.

Do not make copies for other people or use another child's forms.*

Ensure you use the correct postage - A4 envelopes need a "large letter" stamp. Do not send anything by registered post, as it will be held at the sorting office and will delay your application. If you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your forms, you should enclose a stamped addressed postcard or sealed envelope.

DO NOT send any money with your form. We will invoice you if your application is successful.

Please return your forms by FRIDAY 31ST JANUARY for February and Easter camps and by FRIDAY 7TH FEBRUARY for later camps. If you want to attend the February Cave Training, please apply as soon as possible. Check the application form for the return address and deadline for each camp. Our camps are over-subscribed and late applicants will be at a disadvantage. However, we place children to ensure that camps are balanced by age, gender and experience, so some applicants applying before the deadline may still be disappointed.



Successful applicants for Easter and February camps will be notified as soon as possible. You should hear by **14th March** whether you have a place on a weekend, Whitsun or summer camp. Places on the June Glee day camps and the October camps will be confirmed later in the year.

All campers can apply for Easter and weekend camps as well as for summer or Whitsun. In order to give as many children as possible a camp place, **children under 12 will be enrolled on either a Whitsun or a summer camp - not both.** If you apply for both periods, please indicate which is your first choice. Trackers and Pathfinders can camp in both periods and Trailseekers may also be able to if spaces permit, but all campers should still tell us which they would prefer.

We cannot guarantee that you will be placed on your first choice of camp. We will do our best to offer you a place in the same period. You should cross out any camps you definitely do not want to attend, but you are more likely to be offered a place if you are flexible in your choices.

Please tell us on your child's form if brothers and sisters are also applying and whether or not they want to camp together. We will put siblings on the same camp unless you ask us not to.

Where both children request it, we will also try to place two friends together, but not larger groups. **If you ask to camp with a friend we will assume that this takes priority over your choice of camp.**

*Only children who have already registered with FSC can apply to camp in 2014.

Applicants for camp in 2015 should register before 30th November 2014.

You only need to register once: information about how to do this is in the "Parents' Reference" section of our website at www.fsc.org.uk. As our older groups are over-subscribed, we are unable to register children who will be over primary school age when they first apply to camp. This includes children who have siblings who are already FSC campers.

Most activity camps are for experienced FSC campers only, i.e. children who have attended two FSC standing camps. This applies even if your child has camped with other organisations - our standing camps impart the basic FSC philosophy essential for activity camps. Some camps also have a lower age limit.

Please check that your child is eligible for a camp before applying.

At camp, children will join a group based on their age on 31st August 2014. Each group camps separately from the others, so siblings or friends can only share a tent if they are in the same group. The groups are:

Group	Age on 31.08	School Year
Elves	6.6 to 8.11	1, 2 and 3
Woodlings	9.0 to 11.11	4, 5 and 6
Trailseekers	12.0 to 13.11	7 and 8
Trackers	14.0 to 15.11	9 and 10
Pathfinders	16.0 to 17.11	11 and 12

When youth members reach the age of 18 we hope to welcome them back as staff or Waywardens.

All children who camp with us are youth members of FSC until they are eighteen. Members are placed ahead of new applicants and priority for new membership is given to siblings of existing members. Children who have previously applied unsuccessfully are given priority over completely new applicants and most potential new campers will not be placed in the first year they apply.

Camper Support & Aid Fund

FSC offers assistance with camp fees for one camp per child for families who cannot afford to pay the full amount.

This may include parents who are students, 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.

The Aid Fund also has equipment, such as sleeping bags, waterproofs etc.

If you would like to borrow any equipment for camp please email: aid.fund@fsc.org.uk or write to : FSC Aid Fund, Frances Rainford, Hill Row Causeway, Haddenham, Ely CB6 3PA

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.



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:

Kate Ebbutt
Camps Committee Coordinator
camps@fsc.org.uk

Children with Special Needs

FSC runs some camps suitable for children with special needs due to learning or physical disabilities. Stockton Reloaded is the camp specifically for children with disabilities.

We also integrate children into other camps and these are marked throughout the programme. We are more than happy to advise parents, guardians or sponsors which camp would be the most suitable for a particular child. Please contact us should you require further information. Some children may need a high level of support which can be organised by arrangement.

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 are able to arrange financial assistance.

Parents or sponsors of children with special needs should send their applications directly to special@fsc.org.uk or write to:

Michael Whelan
FSC Special Enrolments
PO Box 3185
London SW18 3JG

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

Criminal Record Checks

All FSC staff are required to have submitted a correctly completed Criminal Record Disclosure (DBS) 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 DBS checks. We keep the process of DBS checking our staff under regular review.

Cancellation

If you have to cancel a place at a camp, please write to the Children's Secretary, Forest School Camps, PO Box 3185 London SW18 3JG Children.Secretary@fsc.org.uk, 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 and all or part of the fee may 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 meeting on Saturday 26th April 2014 in Central London for parents, guardians and sponsors whose children are enrolled on spring, Whitsun or summer camps for the first time.

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 with your offer of place in March. 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.

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, 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 to entertain each other with a mixture of songs, sketches and improvisations. At Lodge Common Council, the campers gather around a 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 sailing boat. 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.

There is a particularly wide choice of active and mobile camps in the 2014 programme. Why not make this the year to try something new?



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 email a few weeks before camp starts.

Easter and Earlier Camps

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

Dates: Fri 31st Jan to Sun 2nd Feb
Ages: 15 - 17.11

Mendip Cave Training

Camp Chief: Flow Stone

Organiser: Flow Stone

Pathfinders and last year Tracker cavers – this weekend camp is a chance to stretch your caving legs and increase your experience and knowledge of the lovely Mendip caves so you can help lead and support others on main caving camps. Also a good chance for staff new to caving to try it before taking responsibility for others underground. Experienced caving staff wanted too! Please apply for this camp straight away.

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

Travel: Campers to make their own way to the site. We will try to co-ordinate lifts where possible.

Fees: £100



2

Dates: Sat 15th Feb to Wed 19th Feb
Ages: 11 - 17.11

Mendips Caving in February

Camp Chief: Giles Vellacott

Organiser: Giles Vellacott

We're going back to The Mendips for the February half term, living in the heated Mineries hut near Priddy. It is a good opportunity for beginners and there will be plenty of challenges for older cavers. You must have done two FSC standing camps to before applying to a caving camp. Good winter hiking gear will be essential. Please apply very promptly so we can organise travel in the few weeks between programme publication and the camp.

Extra info: This camp is for children who have attended at least two standing camps. We welcome new cavers. Caving equipment supplied.

Travel: Fees include travel to the site from Bristol, but NOT travel costs from London or elsewhere. However, we will organise group travel to Bristol and will bill those using the escort party with the average cost (usually well below normal child fare).

Fees: £100

Please apply immediately for this camp by sending an email to children@fsc.org.uk with your child's CRN.

Please apply for these caving camps straight away by emailing children@fsc.org.uk

3

Dates: Sat 12th April to Sat 19th April
Ages: 8 - 17.11

Easter in the Quantock Hills

Camp Chiefs: Liam Smeeth & Andy Freedman
Organiser: Jane Wightwick

Come and be part of the first FSC camp at this new site in the beautiful Quantock Hills in Somerset. There are woods to explore and views of the sea. A great place to escape from thoughts of exams and to re-energise in the spring sunshine or showers. Come to listen, to talk, sing and dance, laugh and live outdoors while building a community together.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for children with learning or physical disabilities

Travel: Coach from London

Fees: £265



4

Dates: Sat 12th April to Sat 19th April
Ages: 8 - 17.11

Easter Heatwave at Hodore

Camp Chief: Davy Starkey
Organiser: Emma O'Bryen

With you on camp lets create a happy, learning, playing, cooking, singing, eating, laughing, fire lighting, walking, talking, magical memorable camping experience. Come prepared for frosty rainbows, roaring fires, delicious food and help build a caring sharing community in a beautiful field and wood of East Sussex.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for children with learning or physical disabilities

Travel: Coach from London

Fees: £265

5

Dates: Sat 12th April to Sat 19th April
Ages: 10.0 - 17.11

Another Easter Eggspedition

Camp Chief: Jenny Dingle
Organiser: Hanna Heffner

We will walk through the Pumlumon mountains of Mid Wales, camping in some great wild places on the way. As well as walking we will definitely make plenty of time for learning new skills, swimming by waterfalls, campfires, playing games and enjoying being on a journey.

Travel: Train to Machynlleth and back from Aberystwyth

Fees: £265

Spring Camps

6

Dates: Fri 2nd to Mon 5th May
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Redlingfield Romp

Camp Chiefs: Simon Oatley & Dave Monk
Organiser: Judy Hallgarten

Romp on up to our secret Suffolk woodland adventure. We are going to be singing and making merry, sleeping in our handcrafted shelters, cooking our lunch over a fire lit with steel. We'll be creeping in-between the wild trees through the dappled sunlight looking for treasure and the company of friends.

Travel: Coach from London

Fees: £100

7

Dates: Fri 2nd to Mon 5th May
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Weekend at Hodore

Camp Chief: Laurence Higgens
Organiser: Caroline Emlyn Jones

Come and enjoy a fast-paced three 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 children with learning or physical disabilities

Travel: Coach from London

Fees: £100



Please send your applications for Spring Camps to:
Ruth Steed, 14 Highfields Forest Row, East Sussex RH18 5AJ

8

Dates: Sat 3rd to Mon 5th May
Ages: 9 - 17.11

Venice

Camp Chiefs: Roddy Brooks
& Stephan Ashford
Organiser: Natasha Lewer

Walking and riding on our (t)rusty narrowboat from Stourbridge to Wolverhampton through the Smestow valley. We spend the two nights camping 'standing camp' fashion with wood fires, lats, etc. on a site near the canal. On Monday we clear the site before spending the rest of the day at the entertaining Black Country Living Museum before getting the train home.

Travel: Train from London

Fees: £90



Please send your applications for Camp No. 8 to
Ruth Steed, 14 Highfields Forest Row, East Sussex RH18 5AJ
Please send your applications for Camp No. 9 to
FSC Enrolments, PO BOX 3185, London, SW18 3JG

9

Dates: Fri 30th May to Sun 1st June
Ages: 10 - 17.11

Great Ouse Canoe Training

Camp Chiefs: Hazel Powell & Julian Brown
Organiser: Jenny Wigston

Do you fancy gliding down a river, with sunlight dappling the water? Dream on. Before this can happen we will struggle upstream to Newport Pagnall learning how to control the kayaks in the current. We will shop (with camp funds) and cook in small groups on primus and Trangia stoves, much as one would on a mobile camp. A staff training group (learning to canoe) will camp alongside us and join in the evening activities.

Extra info: Beginners to canoeing welcome. All campers must be able to swim 50m.

Travel: Train from London

Fees: £90



These are two separate small, one-day singing camps in London with no overnight stay.
You are free to apply to both but places are very limited.

10

Dates: 10.30am - 9pm Sat 21st June
Ages: 12 - 17.11

Secret City Singing Skills 1

Camp Chief: Leo Murray
Camp Leader: Cadi St John
Organiser: Cerise Abel-Thompson

Act natural. Just keep walking. Check behind you. Nobody looking? Good - get into that bush quick... hands and knees and... you've made it! Open sesame into this green cave of wonders in the heart of the city, where we will sing together and swap skills – like leading campfires, calling dances, picking out harmonies. Important stuff like that. Bring a song.

Travel: Campers make own way to site

Fees: £35

11

Dates: 10.30am - 9pm Sun 22nd June
Ages: 12 - 17.11

Secret City Singing Skills 2

Camp Chief: Leo Murray
Camp Leader: Cadi St John
Organiser: Cerise Abel-Thompson

Act natural. Just keep walking. Check behind you. Nobody looking? Good - get into that bush quick... hands and knees and... you've made it! Open sesame into this green cave of wonders in the heart of the city, where we will sing together and swap skills – like leading campfires, calling dances, picking out harmonies. Important stuff like that. Bring a song.

Travel: Campers make own way to site

Fees: £35

12

Dates: Fri 11th July - Sun 13th July
Ages: 16 - 17.11

Pathfinder Skills and Games

Camp Chief: Tom Bennett & Emily Munn
Organiser: Eliza Kaczynska-nay

This will be a hugely enjoyable weekend, packed with skills, games and songs. You'll be up early and exhausted by sundown, having had the opportunity to both learn new things, and build confidence in what you already know. The skills focus will be on fire-lighting, shelter building and map reading.

Travel: Coach from London

Fees: £70



Please send your applications for Weekend Camps to
Ruth Steed, 14 Highfields Forest Row, East Sussex RH18 5AJ

Whitsun & Early Summer

13

Dates: Sat May 24th to Sat May 31st
Ages: 6.6 - 13.11

Danbury Jam

Camp Chiefs: Ellen Rickford & Simon Oatley
Organiser: Esmée Jenkins

Come to our cozy woodland world where we will be swinging through the trees, dancing over the dewy moss, whittling, starting fires, cooking, painting, singing, hiding, playing and generally having an amazing adventure with new friends and old. We're going to have a lovely time.

Travel: Coach from London

Fees: £265



14

Dates: Sat May 24th to Sat May 31st
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Hopping at Hodore

Camp Chief: Daniel Simon
Organiser: Ayshah Solomon

Our home will be the field, our playground the woods. Come for a week of woodcraft, games, singing and campfires. With a river to splash in when we get hot and shelter building for if it rains, Hodore has it all.

Extra Info: This camp is suitable for children with learning or physical disabilities

Travel: Coach from London

Fees: £265

15

Dates: Sat May 24th to Sat May 31st
Ages: 6.6 - 13.11

Whitsun at Stockton

Camp Chief: Clare Hedger
Organiser: Bella Mae

The lovely site at Stockton is a great place to play games, climb trees, light fires, watch the sunrise and gaze at the stars. While we are doing all that and more we will be learning how to look after ourselves, each other and the environment we are camping in a gentler pace and a deeper level than 21st century living usually allows us.

Extra Info: This camp is suitable for children with learning or physical disabilities

Travel: Coach from London

Fees: £265

Please send your applications for Whitsun Camps to
FSC Enrolments, PO BOX 3185, London, SW18 3JG

First Fortnight Summer Camps

Please note summer camp dates carefully.

- 1st fortnight summer camp dates are Wed 30th Jul - Tues 12th Aug (Except Nos 20, 23 and 28)
- 2nd Fortnight summer camp dates are: Thurs 14th Aug - Weds 27th Aug

20

Dates: Wed 30th Jul to Fri 8th Aug
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Stockton Reloaded

Camp Chiefs: Michael Whelan & Johnny Morris
Organiser: Rachel Young

Come with us to the stunning Salisbury Plains and experience the usual and the not so usual. Play in the sun, sing in the rain and fly blindfold through the mist. So put a pony in your pocket, because like Stonehenge we will rock.

Extra Info: This camp is **only** for children with special needs due to learning or physical disabilities. **This is a 10 day camp.**

Travel: By Train or Coach from central London

21

Dates: Wed 30th Jul to Tues 12th Aug
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Harlech 1

Camp Chiefs: Rosie McConnell & Tom Bennett
Organiser: Sarah Wynick

This camp will be a fortnight of adventure and challenge at a stunning site in North Wales. Surrounded by beautiful woodland, we will share and practice woodcraft skills, light fires, build shelters, navigate, listen, watch, sing and play. After two weeks of co-existing with the birds and creatures of these woods and fields, who will be able to tell where the field ends and we begin?

Travel: By Train or Coach from central London

Fees: £420



Please send your applications for Summer Camps to
FSC Enrolments, PO Box 3185, London, SW18 3JG

22

Dates: Wed 30th Jul to Tues 12th Aug
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Radnor 1

Camp Chief: Andy Doyle
Organiser: Karen Patrick

A full range standing camp set in the beautiful landscape by the river Ithon. We aim to make an active, creative, and caring community from the skills and spirit everyone can give. Come prepared to enjoy the summer, mud, flood or sunshine, and live in harmony with our neighbours and ourselves.

Extra Info: This camp is suitable for children with learning or physical disabilities

Travel: By Train or Coach from central London

Fees: £420

23

Dates: Wed 30th Jul to Sat 9th Aug
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Fiesta at Farndale

Camp Chiefs: Jess McQuail & Bates Abbott
Organiser: Penny Wiles

Are you fixated with Facebook? Are you frequently flummoxed? Does life seem futile? Do you have dreams of fleeing to freedom? Do you have fantasies of far away fabulous frolics? Then FARNDALE is the camp for you! Be flabbergasted by the far reaching views... Become fit as a fiddle... Feast on fantastic fresh food... Come and experience a full blown fusion of fascination, friendship and fulfilment... Fancy it? Come on then!

Extra Info: This camp is suitable for children with learning or physical disabilities
Please note this is a 10 day camp.

Travel: By Train or Coach from central London

Fees: £420

24

Dates: Wed 30th Jul to Tues 12th Aug
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

South Cornwall 1

Camp Chief: Laurence Higgins
Organiser: Ayshah Jansen-Blackman

This is your chance to come and experience the wonderful South Cornwall scenery. There are lots of opportunities for hikes and maybe even getting to the Cornish coast. 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 children with learning or physical disabilities

Travel: By Train or Coach from central London

Fees: £420

25

Dates: Wed 30th Jul to Tues 12th Aug
Ages: 9 - 17.11

Teviotdale

Camp Chiefs: Stefan Baker & George Torode
Organiser: Carolyn Cohn

Lodged high in the wild hills of the Scottish Borders, we return to this historic and magical site hungry for more of its 25 mile kitchen vista, fire dells and kicking ceilidhs. There will be glee galore, ritual and renewal, ceremony and silliness as we learn to live and look after one another as a creative and caring lodge. Join us to sing, swim and smile, and to experience the sun and the stars and the valley mists.

Extra Info: This camp is suitable for children with learning or physical disabilities

Travel: By Train or Coach from central London

Fees: £420

26

Dates: Wed 30th Jul to Tues 12th Aug
Ages: 12 - 17.11

West Country Wild Swim

Camp Chiefs: Sue Brearley & Rad Wagon
Organiser: Karen Mautner

At this active standing camp in beautiful Dorset we'll share our riverbank home with otters, deer, kingfishers, badgers and barn owls; swimming every day and doing all the usual FSC activities too. Can we design a floating Merry moot stage? Make a hot tub? Hike to the coast and sleep by the sea? Come and find out...

Extra Info: This camp is for experienced FSC campers who can confidently swim 200 metres

Travel: By Train or Coach from central London

Fees: £420



27

Dates: Wed 30th Jul to Tues 12th Aug
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Dinas 1

Camp Chiefs: Feimatta Conteh & Hannah McMahon Major
Organiser: Fiona Clarke

Beautiful site seeks beautiful people for a fortnight of frolics in fields.

WANTED:

Waterfall Waders

Stick Whittlers

Starlit Singers

Hillside Tumblers

Twisted Fire Starters

To build lasting relationships. GSOH a must.

Extra Info: This camp is suitable for children with learning or physical disabilities

Travel: By Train or Coach from central London

Fees: £420



Please send your applications for Summer Camps to
FSC Summer Enrolments, PO Box 3185, London, SW18 3JG

Two by Two by Canoe

Camp Chiefs: Craig Grady & Steve Fletcher

Organiser: Tessa Bull

Back by popular demand! This canoe journey will take us on an exciting adventure through the lovely Wye Valley, camping overnight on the banks of the river as we travel 90 miles down the England/Wales border from Glasbury to Tintern Abbey. This will be an active camp with lots of canoeing as well as the usual magical FSC mix of fun, fires and friends, swimming, stargazing and singing.

Extra Info: This camp is for experienced FSC campers only and everyone must be able to swim at least 50 metres. Previous canoeing experience is not essential, although priority will be given to those who have attended the Great Ouse Canoe Weekend.

Please note the dates for this camp are different from other first fortnight camps.

Travel: By train from Paddington to Hereford, then minibus to site

Fees: £420

Second Fortnight Summer Camps

Come and be Creative at Harlech 2

Camp Chiefs: Daphne Carré & Lucy Roberts

Organiser: Sally Abbott

We return to a popular FSC site in the Snowdonia National Park. We aim to stimulate our creative instincts and set ourselves a number of challenges using our woodcraft skills. First we will build shelters and furniture to make our temporary home practical and comfortable. Then we will build an oven to test our creative skills with food. Finally we will find time to make something to take home as a reminder of camp. What we make will depend largely on the ideas, skills and energy of each member of the lodge. All of this with the usual blend of traditional activities: singing, dancing and of course hike.

Extra Info: This camp is suitable for children with learning or physical disabilities

Travel: By Train or Coach from central London

Fees: £420

32

Dates: Thurs 14th Aug to Wed 27th Aug
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Radnor 2

Camp Chiefs: Leo Murray & Ruth Armitage
Organiser: Cerise Abel-Thompson

Let's dig holes together, out in some field. Let's smell the woodsmoke and get hungry together. Come on, let's just really get right amongst it, all in the grass and the leaves. Let's sleep on the good earth and then get up early and sing together and walk up hills together. Come on.

Extra Info: This camp is suitable for children with learning or physical disabilities

Travel: By Train or Coach from central London

Fees: £420

33

Dates: Thurs 14th Aug to Wed 27th Aug
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Farndale 2

Camp Chief: Lottie Davies
Organiser: Liz Ball

Join us in the wilds of the Yorkshire Moors for woodcraft, fun, fires, games and all manner of craziness. Farndale will be a traditional standing camp for all ages - bring your ideas, enthusiasm, waterproofs and suncream, and prepare for an adventure!

Extra Info: This camp is suitable for children with learning or physical disabilities

Travel: By Train or Coach from central London

Fees: £420



Please send your applications for Summer Camps to
FSC Enrolments, PO Box 3185, London, SW18 3JG

34

Dates: Thurs 14th Aug to Wed 27th Aug
Ages: 9 - 17.11

Out Of Canvas

Camp Chief: Angie Scoble
Organiser: Christina Weir

The challenge of this camp is to reduce our use of equipment; shelters instead of tents, ovens made of stone and mud and games from our imaginations. Bring your penknives, spare groundsheet and ideas, and of course we will have singing dancing and campfires.

Travel: By Train or Coach from central London

Fees: £420

35

Dates: Thurs 14th Aug to Wed 27th Aug
Ages: 12 - 17.11

Sailing By

Camp Chief: Dave Monk
Organiser: Tree Hall

We shall anchor out tents in a small woodland, perfectly placed on the Norfolk Broads yet only a throwing line distance from sand dunes and the beach at Waxham. Half our time will be spent ashore, the other six days will be sailing from quay to wharf in local traditional boats. We will cargo the baggage in our boats, set full sails, seek provisions from local merchants, doze on decks, steer by stars, sleeping in boats or on the banks along the way and enjoy a real Sou'wester. Sea legs, good waterproofs and the ability to be comfortable in and under the water are a necessity for this camp.

Extra info: Life jackets will be supplied and worn at all times on the water.

Travel: By Coach from central London

Fees: £420

36

Dates: Thurs 14th Aug to Wed 27th Aug
Ages: 14 - 17.11

Highway to Hull

Camp Chief: Stephen Bowler
Organiser: Sylvie Leithgou

Look - no escort! We pedal out of London up the Lee Valley to Cambridge and across the Fens to the Wolds, eventually crossing the beautiful Humber Bridge. We'll share lightweight tents and stoves on this challenging mobile. We may even find somewhere to swim. It'll be epic!

Extra Info: For experienced FSC campers only. You'll need an appropriate bike, rack and bags and a practical familiarity with them all. See 'Mobile Camps' at back of brochure. Email Camp Chief (highwaytohull@outlook.com) with queries about kit and ability.

Travel: Start Limehouse Basin, London. Return by coach from Hull to London.

Fees: £420



Autumn Camps

37

Dates: Fri 5th Sept to Sun 7th Sept
Ages: 17 - 17.11

Pathfinder Postcamps

Camp Chiefs: Nicky Birch and Lisa Hallgarten
Organiser: Nicky Birch

Summer is over and it's back to school, college or work. But for last year pathfinders there is one more FSC weekend to get together with old friends and make new ones. It will be part reflection – talking about life on camp and looking forward to the possibility of staffing – and part celebratory, marking the end of your time as a child on FSC camps. There will also be a little work, lots of games and opportunities for teaching and learning new skills.

Note: All final year pathfinders will be sent an invitation in June.

Travel: Coach from London

Fees: £30



38

Dates: Fri 3rd Oct to Sun 5th Oct
Ages: 15 - 17.11

Devon Cave Training

Camp Chief: Flow Stone
Organiser: Flow Stone

Pathfinders and last year Tracker cavers – this weekend camp is a chance to stretch your caving legs and increase your experience and knowledge of the lovely Devon caves so you can help lead and support others on main caving camps. Also a good chance for staff new to caving to try it before taking responsibility for others underground. Experienced caving staff wanted too!

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

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

Fees: £40



Please send your applications for Autumn Camps to
Ruth Steed, 14 Highfields Forest Row, East Sussex RH18 5AJ

39

Dates: Sun 26th Oct to Thurs 30th Oct
Ages: 11 - 17.11

Autumn Caving In Dartmoor

Camp Chief: Giles Vellacot

Organiser: Polly Rubinstein

Staying in the Pengelly cave hut to enjoy the beauty of Dartmoor in the autumn and the local caves with their special characteristics – mud in Pridhams Leigh, warmth in Bakers pot. Good for beginners – but you must have been on two previous FSC camps.

Extra Info: This camp is for children who have attended at least two standing camps. We welcome new cavers. Caving equipment supplied.

Travel: Travel costs to the camp are not included in the fees, but we will organise group travel from London / Bristol and bill those on the escort party with a share of the cost.

Fees: £100



Please send your applications for Autumn Camps to
Ruth Steed, 14 Highfields Forest Row, East Sussex RH18 5AJ

40

Dates: Mon 27th Oct to Fri 31st Oct
Ages: 10 - 17.11

Bare Necessities

Camp Chiefs: Neale Jenvey & Dave Monk

Organiser: Crystal Summerfield

The lodge will be dropped into an unprepared woodland, for 5 days & 4 nights, with one catering tent, a couple of cooking pots and a few tarps for basic shelter only - from Day 1, staff and children alike will be creating their own individual or shared shelters, and they'll have to as we will NOT be taking individual tents on this adventure! Some meals will be prepared by a clan system, but many will be self-cook, with the opportunity to experiment with different meals, methods of cooking & styles of fire, and for the other 23 hours in the day we will play and survive in the woods.

If you want to expand your woodcraft skills, bring just the Bare Necessities of Camp - a knife, a spoon, a bowl, a sleeping bag or two, warm clothes & waterproofs to live in and, of course, an exploring mind!

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

Travel: Coach from London

Fees: £100

Associate Camps

Parents and supporters who become Associate Members of FSC receive news of FSC's activities in an annual newsletter. There are also 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 an application form from the downloads section of our website. Please note that these camps get booked up quickly, so don't delay in applying as places are allocated first come first served. This year we will be restricting families to one camp only in the first instance, so please state your order of preference if you are applying for more than one camp.

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.

41

Dates: Fri 2nd May to Mon 5th May

May Day Magic

Camp Leader: Jenny Willis

Join us for a long weekend of woodcraft, walking, singing, country dancing, good food and general merriment. Exact site to be confirmed but we will guarantee beautiful Cumbrian countryside and lots of fun whatever the weather. Welcoming old friends and new, come along with your whittling knife and a spring in your step - there will be something for everyone!



42

Dates: Fri 2nd May to Mon 5th May

Birdsong at Braziers

Camp Chief: Jake Holloway

Camp Leader: Simon Emmerson

Welcome in the spring in the company of birdsong, bluebells and blue skies. FSC have had an association with Braziers Park since the 1950s, and we return to this lovely site to squeeze a whole camp into just three days and nights. There will be music, there will be country dancing and there will be singing around the campfire.

43

Dates: Fri 23 May to Mon 26 May

Strictly Play in May

Camp Leaders: Adrian Matthews & Simon Glenister

Join us at Assington Mill for the quintessential Suffolk/Essex country camping experience. This beautiful part of the world, with its own micro climate (honest... it's always lovely even when it rains) hosts some wonderful things to explore, from forest walks to swimming in the Mill pool. We will endeavor to build a community based on playing. We don't mind what you play, whether you're a strolling player, you play an instrument or the fool all are welcome. We can guarantee good food, good music and good times. Come and indulge your spirit of play.



44

Dates: Fri 27 June to Sun 29 June

Allendale Associates

Camp Leader: Liz Grayson

We are returning to our new site in Allendale for a weekend of walking, cooking, singing, country dancing and hopefully swimming in the river Allen (perhaps at another recommended swimming spot), meeting old friends and getting to know new ones. This site on a hill with beautiful views of the Northumberland countryside.



45

Dates: Fri 4 July to Sun 6 July

Assington Sing Song

Camp Chief: Quentin Rea

Camp Leader: Nelleke Van Helfteren

Another weekend of singing, association, walking, singing, wooding, singing, eating, singing, playing, singing, merriment. Come and join our merry crew for fun and frolics at the wonderful Mill. Did we mention there would be singing?

Skills & Conservation Camps

Join us for activities ranging from coppicing, hedging, and pond management, to path laying, building bridges, constructing compost toilets and stiles, and even repairing and renovating farm buildings. No special qualifications are needed and it's a great opportunity to try your hand at something new or to hone existing skills. We also enjoy good food, good company and starry evenings around the fire.

These camps run on similar lines to small standing camps and make a good introduction to FSC for newcomers. Children under 18 are welcome with their parent or guardian; families bringing younger children are asked to include at least one adult per child.

There are no camp fees except a small contribution to cover food, usually about £5 per day. There is also no organised travel, so attendees make their own way to the site. Full location details are sent out in advance and most sites are not far from public transport and a friendly lift.

Weekend camps run from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon. Bring your normal kit for camping, plus old clothes, work boots and gloves.

For more information and to enrol please contact the FSC SACCs secretary by email: conservation@fsc.org.uk

No.	Camp	Leaders	Dates
46	Danbury Woodchuck	Olivia Chessell & Ben Rose	Fri 21st – Sun 23rd March
47	Spring at Rushall	Martin Powell & Matt Knight	Fri 4th – Sun 6th April
48	Easter at Greyhill	Stuart Peachey	Weds 16th – Weds 23rd April
49	Spring at Braziers Park	Rad Wagon & Philip King	Fri 25th – Sun 27th April
50	Late Summer at Braziers Park	Dan Bogle	Fri 26th – Sun 28th Sept
51	Autumn at Rushall	Rad Wagon & Lucy Roberts	Fri 24th – Sun 26th Oct
Ages		18+ Unless accompanied by a parent/guardian.	



FSC Stores

What is FSC Stores?

FSC Stores is where we keep all our equipment. We send out around twenty tonnes of equipment every year and we unpack, maintain and repack at our site in Cambridgeshire. While we do so we sing, dance, laugh and you can come join us. It's even free since FSC will pay reasonable travel expenses. We are always on the lookout for new volunteers, even if it's only the one weekend a year you can give. 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.

Four weekends a year (February, Easter, August and November) are given over to maintaining our buildings, grounds and our lovely woodland rather than the stuff you see in the field on camp.

How do I get there?

Escort will most likely be arranged from London Kings Cross every month, and there are regular attendees traveling 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 further information regarding the Stores weekends, please contact the FSC Stores Conveners:

Christy Kaye and Alex Hurt
stores@fsc.org.uk

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

hostess@fsc.org.uk

Weekends this year (2014):

Weekends run from Friday evening to mid afternoon on Sunday

January 10th - 12th	July 4th – 6th
February 7th - 9th	August 22nd - 25th (Mon) (House & Fenwood)
February 21st - 23rd (House & Fenwood)	September 12th - 14th
March 7th - 9th	October 10th - 12th
April 18th - 21st (Mon) (House & Fenwood)	November 7th - 9th
May 9th - 11th	November 21st - 23rd (House & Fenwood)
June 13th - 15th	December 12th - 14th



House and Grounds

The 8.5 acre field we named as Fenwood was purchased by FSC in 2005, as an extension to our existing 1.5 acre Stores Centre at Haddenham, Cambs CB6 3PA.

In 2006 we planted the bare field with several thousand trees and these are now 12-15 feet high. The created woodland is now used as a campsite and a training area to meet our educational needs.

The stores site and its adjoining woodland have 4 dedicated weekends each year during which we manage the trees and fences and maintain the buildings. Help is always needed to ensure that the woodland matures into a valuable resource for FSC to camp and train in and the barns and workshops continue to support the equipment vital to the running of our annual programme.

“House” weekends have traditionally been solely for the upkeep of the buildings and their immediate surrounding grounds. We now have “House and Grounds” weekends at which we maintain all of our site at Haddenham, which means the original 1.5 acres on which the Bungalow and storage sheds are situated and the newer Fenwood site.

For more information please contact Joel Smith: fenwwod@fsc.org.uk and house@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

All campers should be 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, Cigarettes 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.

Can we remind parents and campers that it is against the law for children under eighteen to buy cigarettes or tobacco, or to smoke in public places. We do not condone smoking and we will pro-actively try to prevent anyone from taking up smoking whilst at camp.

Further information

You will receive a pre-camp circular a few weeks before camp, probably by email. 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 rigors 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 rucksack, 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)
- rucksack (Note 7)
- Ordnance Survey map (1:25000)*
- compass* ('Silva' type recommended)
- waterbottle

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: Lightweight 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. Tracksuit 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.

An entrance porch is useful for removal and storage of wet clothing and boots under shelter.

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. A porch which can be used for storing gear is very useful. 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: Rucksack

Most importantly, a rucksack 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. Rucksacks 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 rucksack 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 rucksack. 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 rucksack for the escort journey – it will not be needed and is liable to be lost.

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 rucksack. 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 rucksack are best; anything larger will not fit into a canoe. On cycling mobiles, you must wear a helmet and all your kit must fit inside your panniers and saddle bags (leaving some space for food!).

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.



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 in the way of money – just expenses – but the good company of like-minded adults of all ages keeps many people coming back year after year.

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 down to earth 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 a space on a training weekend, we require that trainees have completed an Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS – formally CRB) check, standard procedure for anyone working with children or vulnerable adults.

For more details on the process of applying to be a member of staff with FSC, check out the page on our website – http://fsc.org.uk/parent/new_staff.htm

You can also email new.staff@fsc.org.uk, or write to

Feimatta Conteh
Unit 1, Cotton Mill
Catwalk Place
Overbury Road
London
N15 6RH



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 email our officers - do not attempt to telephone them.

Chair

Bryson Gore
Elm Cottage, Dark Lane
Chalford, GL6 8QD
chair@fsc.org.uk

Enquiries Officer

Julia Clarke
7 Rathcoole Avenue, London N89LY
enquiries@fsc.org.uk

Enquiries about Children's Enrolment:

Sue Brearley
PO Box 3185, London, SW18 3JG
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Special Enrolments

Michael Whelan
PO Box 3185, London, SW18 3JG
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Finance Group

Forest School Camps
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treasurer@fsc.org.uk

Camper Support (Financial)

Frances Rainford
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Camp Dates Summary

No.	Dates	Name	Location	Ages	Fee	Info
1	31.1.14 - 2.2.14	Mendip Cave Training	Mendips	15 - 17.11	£100	-
2	15.2.14 - 19.2.14	Mendip Caving in February	Mendips	11 - 17.11	£100	-
3	12.4.14 - 19.4.14	Easter in The Quantock Hills	Somerset	8 - 17.11	£265	LPD
4	12.4.14 - 19.4.14	Easter Heatwave at Hodore	Hodore	8 - 17.11	£265	LPD
5	12.4.14 - 19.4.14	Another Easter Eggspedition	Mid-Wales	10 - 17.11	£265	E
6	2.5.14 - 5.5.14	Redlingfield Romp	Suffolk	6.6 - 17.11	£100	-
7	2.5.14 - 5.5.14	Weekend at Hodore	Suffolk	6.6 - 17.11	£100	LPD
8	3.5.14 - 5.5.14	Venice	Venice	9 - 17.11	£90	-
9	30.5.14 - 1.6.14	Great Ouse Canoe Training	Bucks	10 - 17.11	£90	-
10	21.6.14	Secret City Singing 1	London	12 - 17.11	£35	-
11	22.6.14	Secret City Singing 2	London	12 - 17.11	£35	-
12	11.7.14 - 13.7.14	Pathfinder Skills & Games	Braziers Park	16 - 17.11	£70	-
13	24.5.14 - 31.5.14	Danbury Jam	Danbury	6.6 - 13.11	£265	-
14	24.5.14 - 31.5.14	Hopping at Hodore	Hodore	6.6 - 17.11	£265	LPD
15	24.5.14 - 31.5.14	Whitsun at Stockton	Stockton	6.6 - 13.11	£265	LPD
20	30.7.14 - 8.8.14	Stockton Reloaded	Stockton	9 - 17.11	£350	LPD
21	30.7.14 - 12.8.14	Harlech 1	Harlech	6.6 - 17.11	£420	-
22	30.7.14 - 12.8.14	Radnor 1	Radnor	6.6 - 17.11	£420	LPD
23	30.7.14 - 9.8.14	Fiesta at Fardale	Fardale	6.6 - 17.11	£420	LPD
24	30.7.14 - 12.8.14	South Cornwall 1	S Cornwall	6.6 - 17.11	£420	LPD
25	30.7.14 - 12.8.14	Teviotdale 1	Teviotdale	6.6 - 17.11	£420	LPD
26	30.7.14 - 12.8.14	West Country Wild Swim	Dorset	12 - 17.11	£420	E
27	30.7.14 - 12.8.14	Dinas	Wales	6.6 - 17.11	£420	LPD
28	30.7.14 - 9.8.14	Two by Two by Canoe	Wye Valley	10 - 17.11	£420	E
31	14.8.14 - 27.8.14	Come and be Creative at Harlech 2	Harlech	6.6 - 17.11	£420	LPD
32	14.8.14 - 27.8.14	Radnor 2	Radnor	6.6 - 17.11	£420	LPD
33	14.8.14 - 27.8.14	Fardale 2	Fardale	6.6 - 17.11	£420	LPD
34	14.8.14 - 27.8.14	Out of Canvas	South Cornwall	9 - 17.11	£420	-
35	14.8.14 - 27.8.14	Sailing By	Norfolk	12 - 17.11	£420	-
36	14.8.14 - 27.8.14	Highway to Hull	London-Hull	14 - 17.11	£420	E
37	5.9.14 - 7.9.14	Pathfinder Postcamps	Fenwood	17 - 17.11	£30	E
38	3.10.14 - 5.10.14	Devon Cave Training	Devon	15 - 17.11	£40	E
39	26.10.14 - 30.10.14	Autumn Caving in Dartmoor	Devon	11 - 17.11	£100	-
40	27.10.14 - 31.10.14	Bare Necessities	Danbury	10 - 17.11	£100	E
41	2.5.14 - 5.5.14	May Day Magic	Cumbria	Family	N/A	A
42	2.5.14 - 5.5.14	Birdsong at Braziers	Braziers Park	Family	N/A	A
43	23.5.14 - 26.5.14	Strictly Play in May	Assington	Family	N/A	A
44	27.6.14 - 29.6.14	Allendale Associates	Allendale	Family	N/A	A
45	4.7.14 - 6.7.14	Assington Sing Song	Assington	Family	N/A	A
46	21.3.14 - 23.3.13	Danbury Woodchuck	Danbury	18+	N/A	SACC
47	4.4.14 - 6.4.14	Spring at Rushall	Rushall	18+	N/A	SACC
48	16.4.14 - 23.4.14	Easter at Greyhill	Greyhill	18+	N/A	SACC
49	25.4.14 - 27.4.14	Spring at Braziers	Braziers Park	18+	N/A	SACC
50	26.9.14 - 28.9.14	Late Summer at Braziers Park	Braziers Park	18+	N/A	SACC
51	24.10.14 - 26.10.14	Autumn at Rushall	Rushall	18+	N/A	SACC

E = Experienced FSC campers only SACC = Skills & conservation camps A = Associate camps
 LPD = This camp is suitable for active children with special needs due to learning or physical disabilities

Camp Sites



**Listen and learn some camp
songs.
Visit <http://virtualcampfire.co.uk>**

