



FOREST SCHOOL CAMPS

PROGRAMME 2017

CELEBRATING **70** YEARS OF
ADVENTURES IN EDUCATION



WELCOME

Welcome to the FSC Programme 2017. The main points are highlighted below. Please read the important information pages carefully before applying for camp.

1st Fortnight Summer Camps run from 27th July – 9th August.

Please note Second Fortnight Camps vary in length. 2nd Fortnight Standing Summer Camps run from 12th – 20th August. We expect these shorter camps to offer as close to the full summer camp experience as possible; and campers in Year 11 will be home in time to collect their GCSE results.

2nd Fortnight Activity Camps run from 12th-25th August.

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 2017 this means that potential first-time campers must have a date of birth between 01.09.2005 and 28.02.2011 and must have been registered with us before 30th November 2016.

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 CAMPS

Forest School Camps (FSC) is an educational charity and a voluntary organisation aiming to foster every person's ability to live close to nature. It is very different to a commercial holiday company as everyone working to make this amazing adventure happen does so voluntarily. All our officers and staff are unpaid, trained volunteers, with DBS checks.

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 1947 when former pupils and staff came together, keen 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 together with: independence and responsibility; care and concern for others, the environment and ourselves; 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 practiced 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!



fsc.org.uk

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 29th JANUARY for February and Easter camps and by FRIDAY 5TH FEBRUARY for later camps. If you want to attend the February Cave Training, please apply as soon as possible via email. 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.

Please make sure your email contact details are correct when you return your application. Successful applicants for Easter and February camps will be noticed as soon as possible. You should hear by the 3rd week of March whether you have a place on a weekend, Whitsun or summer

camp. Places on 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. Children applying for summer camps in both camping periods increase their chances of being offered a place.

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.** If a child requests to camp with a sibling and a friend we will prioritize placing with a sibling over placing with a friend.

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 2017. 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 - 8.11	1, 2 and 3
Woodlings	9.0 - 11.11	4, 5 and 6
Trailseekers	12.0 - 13.11	7 and 8
Trackers	14.0 - 15.11	9 and 10
Pathfinders	16.0 - 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.

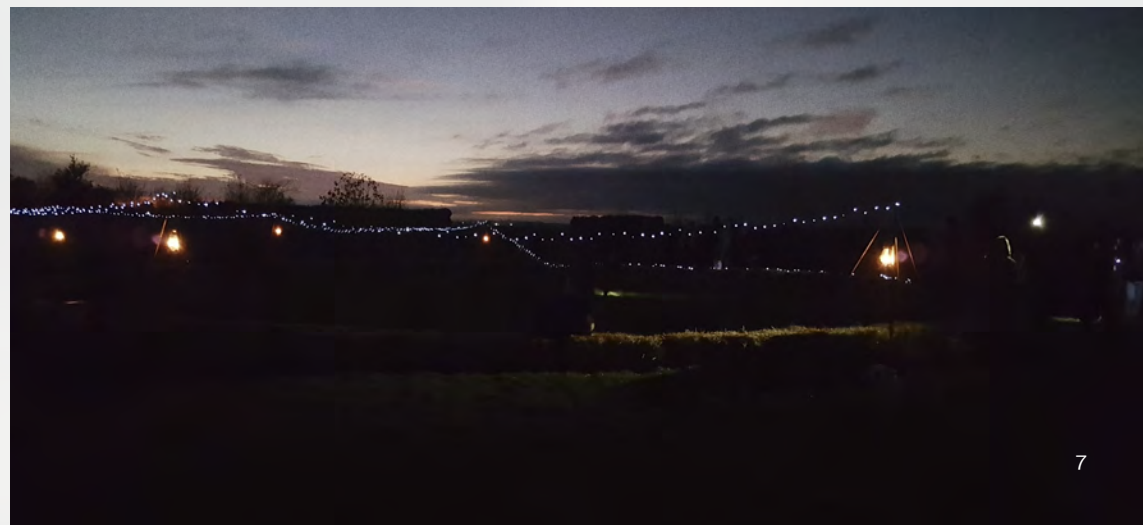
CAMP FEES

Fees for each camp are listed with the individual camp details. FSC keeps the costs of camps as low as possible while taking into account travel, food and other expenses. Therefore fees may not always relate directly to the length of the camp.

It is FSC policy that no child will be refused a place because they cannot afford the fees (see Camper Support and Aid Fund below) although we do sometimes have to turn down applications due to the high demand for places.

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.

- When you have been allocated a place on a camp we will write to you with the payment details.
- This letter will detail how fees may be paid, including paying by installments and rebates for those traveling independently to camp.
- 10% of this total fee is treated as a non-refundable deposit, to cover our administration costs, once you have accepted 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.



*Only children who have already registered with FSC can apply to camp in 2017. Applicants for camp in 2017 must have registered before 30th November 2016. 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.

CANCELLATION

If you have to cancel a place at a camp, please write to the Children Enrolments Officer, Forest School Camps, PO Box 3185, London, SW18 3JG children@fsc.org.uk (note change of email address) giving the reason, as soon as possible.

FSC does not insure you against cancellation. Holiday insurance (available from most travel agents and banks) may 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. If a child needs to leave camp early due to ill health it is their parent's / guardian's responsibility to collect their child either from the site or from hospital (a member of staff will stay with the child in hospital until their parent / guardian arrives).

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. If you would like to make your donation more tax efficient through the use of Gift Aid, or would like to make a regular donation by standing order, please visit our website and download the form. If you would like to make a one off donation contact our Donations Officer at donations@fsc.org.uk

CAMPER SUPPORT & AID FUND

FSC offers assistance with camp fees for one camp a year 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 tents, 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, Hill Row Causeway, Haddenham, Ely CB6 3PA

DBS CHECKS

All FSC staff are required to have an up to date enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS – formally CRB) check, standard procedure for anyone working with children or vulnerable adults, before they can be enrolled on our 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. At camps where parents or guardians are responsible for their children (Associates, SaCC camps and Haddenham Stores) there may be adults who do not have a current DBS check.



DISABLED CHILDREN

FSC strives to be inclusive and runs lots of camps that are suitable for disabled children and those with additional needs. This year, The Big Stockton is the camp specifically for disabled campers. We aim to integrate disabled campers into as many of our camps as possible throughout the programme, providing we have the right staff and support to meet their interests and needs. We are more than happy to advise parents, carers or guardians which camp would be the most suitable for a particular child.

Contact: Will Renel and Alice Freedman
163A Shardeloes Road,
London,
SE14 6RT
Email: inclusion@fsc.org.uk

PARENTS' PRECAMPS MEETING

There will be a meeting on 22nd April 2017 in London for parents, guardians and sponsors whose children are enrolled on spring, Whitsun or summer camps for the first time. Children accompanied by an adult are welcome to attend.

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 a place in March 2017. 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.

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 new.sites@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 - known as 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, organized 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, traveling on foot, by bicycle, by canoe, raft 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.

There is a choice of activity and mobile camps in the 2017 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 MENDIP CAVE TRAINING

Camp Chief: Flow Stone
Organiser: Ian Peachey
Dates: Fri 3rd February - Sun 5th February
Age: 15 to 17.11
Fees: £45

Once again we return to the Mendip Hills to explore what lies below. This camp is for staff who are interested in caving but have never been before so would like to try it in a small supportive environment. It is also for our experienced caver Pathfinders and last year Trackers who are on their way to becoming leaders themselves. We will be learning old favourites ready to take the younger children, and visiting new caves, or stretching ourselves in other ways to help us develop as cavers and cave leaders.

Travel: Campers to make their own way to site. We will try to coordinate lifts where possible.

Please apply for these caving camps straight away and include your child's name, date of birth and CRN number by emailing children@fsc.org.uk

2 MENDIP CAVING

Camp Chiefs: Giles Vellacott & Molly Hopkinshaw
Caving Co-ordinator: Ian Peachey
Organiser: Ian Peachey
Dates: Sat 11th February - Wed 15th February
Age: 9 to 17.11
Fees: £140

Once again we are returning to the velvety hills of the Mendips. We will be exploring underground in echo-y caverns, drippy holes, rushing waterfalls and squiggly tunnels, as well as in the fresh winter sunlight on the top of the gorges and coombes of this beautiful part of the world. There will be games, singing, stories and cake. Come along whether you are a seasoned wriggler or just cave-curious and new to the game. See you there!

Extra info: This camp is for experienced FSC campers only. We welcome new cavers. Caving equipment supplied.

Travel: Fees DO NOT include travel from London, but the camp will organise group travel from London (or elsewhere if possible) and bill those on the party with a share of the cost.

3 SPRING IN DORSET

Camp Chiefs: Daphne Carré & Lucy Roberts
Organiser: Fiona Clarke
Dates: Sat 8th April - Sat 15th April
Age: 9 to 17.11
Fees: £300

We return to this beautiful site in North Dorset where we should be able to use our skills to observe the first signs of Spring. It may be cold so we will be active playing games, country dancing, honing our fire lighting skills and singing around the campfire. There will be an overnight hike. Come along make new friends and join in the fun.

Extra info: 2 sleeping bags, warm clothes and good waterproofs are ESSENTIAL. Tents should be weather proof and able to withstand strong winds.

Travel: Coach from London

4 HODORE MEGA JAM PARTY

Camp Chiefs: Nicky Birch & Jack Freedman
Organiser: Judy Hallgarten
Dates: Sat 8th April - Sat 15th April
Age: 9 to 17.11
Fees: £300

Hold tight people for the hottest ticket this Easter. Get ready to bust some serious moves in beautiful nature with a lovely lodge. So grab your best dancing wellies, your shiniest waterproofs and your thumping thermals. Already confirmed for the week: blazing fires, woodcraft skillz, and gleeEE. We guarantee the above but the weather is unconfirmed so dress appropriately. Not to be missed.

Travel: Coach from London

5 TRANS-WALES EXPRESS

Camp Chiefs: Dennis Picknett & Steve Mardall
Organiser: Caroline Emlyn Jones
Dates: Sat 8th April - Sat 15th April
Age: 12 to 17.11
Fees: £300

We will roll in our sleep from England to Wales and then walk across the Berwyn Hills to beautiful Lake Bala. Restocking with food and fuel we will then head towards the Irish Sea, camping high in a Cwm on Cadair Idris.

At the Centre for Alternative Technology we will recharge our batteries, before a final feast in a forest.

Extra info: This camp will require full lightweight kit, good boots and warm sleeping bags as there can still be snow in the mountains at Easter.

Travel: Coach from London

Please post your applications to FSC Easter and Weekend Enrolments,
47 Rochford Walk, Blackstone Estate,
London, E8 3HQ

SPRING CAMPS



6 WEEKEND AT HODORE

Camp Chief: Laurence Higgins
Organiser: Miranda Green
Dates: Sat 29th April - Mon 1st May
Age: 6.6 to 17.11
Fees: £110

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.

Travel: Coach from London

7 VENICE

Camp Chiefs: Roddy Brooks & Stephan Ashford
Organiser: Frances Currie
Dates: Sat 29th April - Mon 1st May
Age: 9 to 17.11
Fees: £100

A longer weekend camp walking and riding with a narrowboat along canals between Stourbridge and Wolverhampton. Both nights are spent camping close to the canal with all the components of standing camp life; woodfire cooking in clans, lats, campfires etc. On the Monday we clear the site, go to the Black Country Living Museum and spend the rest of the day there before catching the train home.

Travel: Train from London Marylebone.

8 JOURNEY INTO GURN

Camp Chiefs: Vic Doggart & Jimmy Proudlock
Organiser: Jess Harris
Dates: Sat 29th April - Mon 1st May
Age: 6.6 to 17.11
Fees: £110

Welcome to the wonderful woods - this historical haven is an inspiration for the human spirit where old friends and new will come together to create a kaleidoscopic community. We will chop and axe wood, learn something new, sing loudly round fires burning bright. We will make merry magnificent magic mayhem in a blazing Beltane fashion and find peaceful moments whilst exploring the spaces between the beautiful beeches and the beloved bluebells.

Travel: Coach from London.

Please post your applications to FSC Easter and Weekend Enrolments,
47 Rochford Walk, Blackstone Estate, London, E8 3HQ



WHITSUN & EARLY SUMMER

9 NORTH COTSWOLDS ADVENTURE

Camp Chief: Cairi Jacks & Feimatta Conteh
Organiser: Sara Monahan
Dates: Sat 27th May - Sat 3rd June
Age: 6.6 to 17.11
Fees: £300

Welcome to an adventure in wild Whitsun wonderland! Following the cycles of nature we will create our supportive, fun filled, action packed camp. Taking inspiration from what we find around us, we will whittle and wonder, we will sing and play and be spontaneous! Lets learn the stories of the hills and share them in the light of the campfire. Come with your ideas, and with an open heart ready for whatever magic unfolds....

Travel: Coach from London

10 WHITSUN AT STOCKTON

Camp Chief: Dan Brandenburger
Organiser: Louis Basi
Dates: Sat 27th May - Sat 3rd June
Age: 6.6 to 17.11
Fees: £300

Join us at this fantastic site overlooking Salisbury Plain for our week of camping adventures. We will be playing in the ancient woods, making fires, exploring the rolling hills, singing to ourselves, making music, chopping wood, playing games, while building a loving supportive community and most importantly having lovely food and lots of FUN!

Travel: Coach from London.

11 WHITSUN AT MARLBOROUGH

Camp Chiefs: Bryson Gore & May McKeith
Organiser: Alison Watts
Dates: Sat 27th May - Sat 3rd June
Age: 6.6 to 17.11
Fees: £300

Welcome to Whitsun with a twist. We're going to run a classic FSC camp, with all your favourites but with an added something or two... bring along new ideas and we'll try them out. New songs, new recipes, new games and new ways to light a fire. Long days at Whitsun will give us a chance to explore our imaginations 'neath trees, 'round fires and 'twixt the Sun and Earth. In the rolling hills of Marlborough we'll build a lodge that takes all the great ideas of FSC and nourishes new ideas, so why not be part of starting new traditions in FSC.

Travel: Coach from Richmond



12 SCOTLAND WALKING MOBILE

Camp Chiefs: Cadi St John & Jenny Dingle
Organiser: Jayne Jenkins
Dates: Sat 27th May - Sat 3rd June
Age: 12 to 17.11
Fees: £300

We will walk through the extraordinarily beautiful Fisherfield area of North West Scotland. Most days we will journey with all we need on our backs, travelling light and taking time to enjoy. We will swim in lochs, bask in the view when we reach the pass, sing in the bothy, rejoice in the challenge of the adventure and look after each other in this fantastic wilderness. Midges are not too bad at this time of year.

Travel: By train to Achnasheen then a short distance by car.

13 FROM SEA TO SEA

Camp Chief: Simon Oatley
Organiser: Carole Mathews
Dates: Sat 27th May - Sat 3rd June
Age: 11 to 17.11
Fees: £300

Starting on the shore of the Irish sea in the beautiful Cumbrian port of Whitehaven we will dip our back wheels in the foam and head to Tynemouth on the other side of England to plunge our front wheels into the North sea. Fear not, the pace will be gentle, a van will carry our luggage and there will even be bikes to borrow for those who need them. 50% tracks and cycle paths with the rest on quiet roads. We'll even fit in a merrymoot and pea-fair.

Travel: Coach from London

14 70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CAMPUS

Camp Chiefs / Organisers: Fran Rainford & Giles Vellacott
Dates: Fri 16th June - Sun 18th June
Age: Staff Only
(Staff may bring their own children but are responsible for their supervision)

70 years since the first camp set in motion the organisation that has shaped us all, we want to bring as many as we can of those early campers together with all the generations that have followed, with a woodcraft momento offered to the youngest pixie attending! The programme will suit any day visitors on the Saturday who cannot stay the night, will welcome all and will need some who can come early to set up, or stay on to clear up. There will be good food, a celebration fire and opportunities for discussion and skill sharing. We look forward to the chance to swap tales, ideas and memories with new dreams and plans for the future, to sharing the hopes and experience that make a couple of weeks in a wet field the most important event of the year for anyone in the first 80 or so years of their life.

Travel: We will try to co-ordinate lifts to minimise travel costs to individuals and the environment, and make particular efforts to help those for whom travel is not so easy. Please let us know as early as possible if you need, or can offer, transport.

Please post your applications to
FSC Whitsun and Summer Enrolments,
67 Grand Avenue, London, N10 3BS

For Camp #14
Please apply online or contact
the organisers directly.

FIRST FORTNIGHT SUMMER CAMPS



20 THE BIG STOCKTON

Camp Chief: Jack Freedman
Camp Leader: Will Renel
Organiser: Rachel Young
Dates: Thu 27th July - Sat 5th August
Age: 6.6 to 17.11
Fees: £400

Are you ready for Magic?
Are you ready for Togetherness?
Are you ready for Nature?
Are you ready for Laughter?
This is intercontinental ballistic woodcraft with a side of lodge-conscious care, consensus and spirit.
This is The Big Stockton.
We are Big Stockton.

This camp is only for campers with disabilities

Travel: Coach from London

21 WESSEX WILD SWIM

Camp Chief: Sue Brearley
Organiser: Karen Mautner
Dates: Thu 27th July - Wed 9th August
Age: 11 to 17.11
Fees: £460

Adventurers needed for riverside fun by day and fire-lit song by night. Discover your inner Otter on this active standing camp in, on and around the beautiful Dorset Stour. Will you build a clan shelter and sleep in the woods? Map-read your way to the Jurassic coast? Whittle your own porridge spoon? Compère a floating Merrymoot? Or do something we haven't even thought of yet? Join us and find out!

Extra info: *This camp is for experienced FSC campers who can confidently swim 200m. There will be a swim-safety training day for staff and Pathfinders in London on Saturday July 15th. Please reserve the date if applying for this camp.*

Travel: Coach from London

22 CEFNGWEIRIOG

Camp Chiefs: Daniel Jacks, Corinne Howells & Andy Freedman
Organiser: Liz Ball
Dates: Thu 27th July - Wed 9th August
Age: 6.6 to 17.11
Fees: £460

Learning new skills and making new friends, we'll sleep out, light fires, climb trees, play games, build dens, tell stories, make things out of materials around us, listen, sing and laugh.

We'll explore some of the timeless things at the roots of FSC, borrowed from the Native Americans, like the four winds, the flow of the seasons and how the Camp Chief Elders can support more people taking time to lead parts of the camp. We'll aim to have a balance between things we usually do, and new things we create.

On this beautiful site between the mountains and the sea, we'll have fun sharpening our senses, following our curiosity and being awake to what's happening in nature around us.

Travel: Coach from London

23 BLACK MOUNTAINS

Camp Chiefs: Rosie McConnell & Rod Gritten
Organiser: Juliette Flower
Dates: Thu 27th July - Wed 9th August
Age: 6.6 to 17.11
Fees: £460

See a mountain, have to peak it?
Feel a river, need to jump in?
Find a tree, long to climb it?
Hear a song, got to sing?

Calling **ENERGETIC CAMPERS** who are keen to develop skills, share enthusiasm, be part of the Lodge and the stunning countryside. We will climb the Black Mountains, light fires, build dams, sleep under the stars and live amongst wild flowers, red kites and our stories.

Travel: Coach from London

*Please post your applications to
FSC Whitsun and Summer Enrolments,
67 Grand Avenue, London, N10 3BS*



24 FARNDALE 1

Camp Chiefs: Nell Cameron & Kate Hall

Organiser: Jamie Risner

Dates: Thu 27th July - Wed 9th August

Age: 6.6 to 17.11

Fees: £460

Come and join us in beautiful North Yorkshire for a traditional standing camp. Bring your ideas and energy, your silliness and creativity, and together we'll build our lodge. We'll bask in the sunshine, dance in the rain, sing to the stars at night, light fires, tell stories and hug trees, and that's just for starters. We can't wait to see you there.

Travel: Coach from London

25 RADNOR 1

Camp Chiefs: Andy Doyle & Ellen Rickford

Organiser: Karen Patrick

Dates: Thu 27th July - Wed 9th August

Age: 6.6 to 17.11

Fees: £460

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.

Travel: Coach from London



26 PEMBROKESHIRE COAST

Camp Chief: Lottie Davies

Organiser: Ellie Abel

Dates: Thu 27th July - Wed 9th August

Age: 6.6 to 17.11

Fees: £460

Join us for adventures on land and by the sea as we explore the far Welsh coast. We will have all the traditional camp activities by day and by night; there will be fire, and rain, and sun, campfires, hikes, games, delicious food, beach swimming, night game, face-painting, general merriment and some organised chaos. Come with us!

Travel: Coach from London

27 RECONSTRUCTING HARLECH

Camp Chiefs: Lisa Hallgarten & Oscar Cooper

Organiser: Sam Raphael

Dates: Thu 27th July - Wed 9th August

Age: 6.6 to 17.11

Fees: £460

Come join us to make furniture, fire, music, art, and delicious food. We want your ideas, we want your vision. Together we're going to re-imagine, re-invent and reconstruct our camp environment using exciting new skills, a few tools and all the elements: Earth Wind and Fire... and Water, Wood and Stone (the lesser-known 70s funk band?)

Travel: Coach from London

Please post your applications to [FSC Whitsun and Summer Enrolments](#),
[67 Grand Avenue, London, N10 3BS](#)

SECOND FORTNIGHT SUMMER CAMPS



30 FARNDALE 2

Camp Chief: Craig Grady

Organiser: Hana Leithgoe

Dates: Sat 12th August - Sun 20th August

Age: 6.6 to 17.11

Fees: £355

Come gather in beautiful Farndale. We will build a community of fun and laughter amid the splendour of the hills and Dales. Come prepared to encounter a Hob or Goblin! Legend has it that Farndale is the home of these mischievous Hobs. Treated kindly they can be helpful, especially to farmers, as they work unseen at night. Woe betide anyone who sees a Hob during daylight hours! You had better go prepared with a jug of cream.

Travel: Coach from London

31 ROLLICKING RADNOR

Camp Chief: Daniel Simon

Organiser: David Berg

Dates: Sat 12th August - Sun 20th August

Age: 6.6 to 17.11

Fees: £355

By the banks of the River Ithon in the middle of Wales we will camp, cook, play, swim and create our community. A two-week camp packed into 9 days complete with nightgame, capture the flag, pea fair, merrymoot, craft and woodcraft. Adventurous days giving way to beautiful campfires under the stars. Join us rollicking at Radnor.

Travel: Coach from Richmond

32 HARLECH HEATWAVE

Camp Chiefs: Leila Murray & Liam Smeeth

Organiser: Angaharad Walters

Dates: Sat 12th August - Sun 20th August

Age: 6.6 to 17.11

Fees: £355

Come to have fun and live outdoors in this beautiful site between the mountains and the sea. Laugh, sing, dance, chat, run around, relax, light fires, cook, be immersed in nature, and spend nine days looking after each other.

Travel: Escort from London

Please post your applications to FSC Whitsun and Summer Enrolments,
67 Grand Avenue, London, N10 3BS



33 DALES WAY NOMADS

Camp Chief: Joel Smith
Organiser: Denise Largin
Dates: Sat 12th August - Fri 25th August
Age: 10 to 17.11
Fees: £460

Who are the Terrible Knitters of Dent? Why is Kettlewell full of Scarecrows? What happens on Ilkley Moor without your hat? Where hast tha' bin since I saw thee? And where are your trousers!?

We will be nomads, moving site most days, but not necessarily very far! The Dales Way stretches between Windermere in the Lake District, and Ilkley, and we aim to walk the complete path but take our time to have fun in the afternoons.

This will be an easy mobile, suitable for Woodlings and up, but with the option to climb a peak or two for those wanting to stretch their legs. Fancy grabbing the Three Peaks? We pass near them all. Come and discover the joys of mobiling as we create a lodge on the move. 'Appen ahl sithee there!

Travel: Travel from London

34 HEBRIDEAN HI-JINX

Camp Chief: Laurence Higgins
Organiser: Tessa Bull
Dates: Sat 12th August - Fri 25th August
Age: 12 to 17.11
Fees: £475

Did you have that dream about finding a wild beach, swimming in foaming seas, discovering deserted dunes and staring at starry nights? We did too, so get on board to an animated standing camp on the Hebridean island of South Uist. 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.

Travel: Train from London then Coach and Ferry.

This camp costs more because of travel expenses. If you are unable to afford this amount please ask for financial assistance at aid.fund@fsc.org.uk

*Please post your applications to
[FSC Whitsun and Summer Enrolments.](mailto:FSCWhitsunandSummerEnrolments@fsc.org.uk)
67 Grand Avenue, London, N10 3BS*



AUTUMN CAMPS

41 DARTMOOR CAVE TRAINING

Camp Chief: Flow Stone
Camp Leader: Sara Monahan
Organiser: Sophie Meekings
Dates: Fri 6th October - Sun 8th October
Age: 15 to 17.11
Fees: £45

An opportunity for Trackers & Pathfinders who are experienced cavers to get to know the caves in Devon ahead of the main camp. Also an opportunity to staff to practice their caving skills to help on the main camp, as well as staff who are new to caving to try it out. Please come ready to learn and expand knowledge that will enhance the experience of campers on the main camp.

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

Please apply for these caving camps by emailing children@fsc.org.uk Include your child's name, date of birth and CRN number

42 DARTMOOR CAVING

Camp Chief: Giles Vellacott
Camp Leader: Sara Monahan
Caving Co-ordinator: Peter Keate
Organiser: Sophie Meekings
Dates: Wed 25th October - Sun 29th October
Age: 9 to 17.11
Fees: £140

We would like to welcome cavers of all abilities to our warm and cosy hut in Devon for some muddy caving! We will be exploring the magical caves of Devon and finding out what mysteries they hold, while enjoying each other's company, singing songs and helping one another in camp life. The camp will be spending a night on Dartmoor so please pack a tent and your adventurous spirit.

Extra info: This camp is for experienced FSC campers only. We welcome new cavers. Caving equipment supplied.

Travel: Fees DO NOT include travel from London, but the camp will organise group travel from London (or elsewhere if possible) and bill those on the party with a share of the cost.





ASSOCIATE CAMPS

Parents and supporters who become Associate Members of FSC receive news of FSC's activities. There are also weekend family camps especially for Associate Members and their families. The annual subscription is £10 but you can add a donation on top, which will go into the aid fund of the organisation. Associate membership registration forms are available from the website in downloads or contact the membership secretary for more information. To keep costs down we prefer to communicate via email.

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 organized travel, allowing us to keep the fees to a minimum. Lifts from train stations are offered. 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.

50 EARLY ASSINGTON

Camp Leaders: Quentin Rea and Nelleke van Helfteren

Organiser: Megan Ruddock

Dates: Friday 28th April - Monday 1st May

Bluebells, billy-bashing, babbling and bubbling. Join us for the Mayday weekend and bring an extra sleeping bag and a swimsuit. You will definitely need at least one of these items!

51 MILDENHALL MARVELS NEAR MARLBOROUGH

Camp Leaders: Anita Andrews and Lucy Shepherd

Organiser: Megan Ruddock

Dates: Friday 28th April - Monday 1st May

This new site at Mildenhall, near the popular town of Marlborough, boasts a secluded meadow bordered by beautiful woodlands of mature ash, oak and maple. An attractive new kitchen suite, with an authentic log dining circle, is at the heart of the site, and a splendid nearby dell with an open fire area provides ample space for all evening entertainment needs. Flexible sleeping arrangements with lavish latrines and bucket bathrooms are conveniently situated. Nearby facilities include a pleasant village hall, ideal for ceilidhs. The site is set in glorious countryside, and a weekend visit is highly recommended.

Come and join us, to learn and play the FSC way!

NB: becoming an Associate Member or attending a family camp does not give your child any priority on the waiting list to attend any of our main camps.

52 SUFFOLK FROLIC

Camp Leaders: Adrian Matthews and Simon Glennister

Organiser: Megan Ruddock

Dates: Friday 26th May - Monday 29th May

Once again we return to our wood-enclosed field at Assington Mill for a long, lavish, late-May weekend of frolicking with the wood sprites, dew-tasting, alchemical cooking, and transformative music making. The focus will be on the useful, the small, the overlooked, the hidden, the inconspicuous and the entertaining – the stuff that is there for all to discover and enjoy once the veil of modern life is stripped away. Join us for the journey.

53 BORROWBECK ASSOCIATES

Camp Leader: Liz Grayson

Organiser: David and Hilary Hughes

Dates: Friday 9th June - Sunday 11th June

We are returning to the much loved Borrowbeck site for a weekend of walking, cooking, singing, country dancing and swimming in the river – meeting old friends and getting to know new ones.

54 GELT IN THE MIST (WITH GORILLAS?)

Camp Leader: Jenny Willis

Organiser: David and Hilary Hughes

Dates: Thursday 17th - Sunday 20th August

Hopefully there will be sunshine as well as mist. There will definitely be singing, great food and company & lots to do including walking, woodcraft and wild water fun. Will Gelt's gorilla friends be back? Join us at this lovely spot in North Cumbria to find out! Accessible by public transport - Brampton station is nearby. Lifts from the station can be arranged.

FSC STORES

What is FSC Stores?

Haddenham 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 play games; you can come join us. It's even free since FSC can 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. You don't even need to be FSC staff! 16-17 year-olds 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 drag them along as well!). Children aged 15 and under must be accompanied by a parent/guardian, for the duration, as these work weekends are not staffed 'camps'.

Four additional weekends a year are given over to maintaining our buildings, grounds and our lovely woodland, rather than the stuff you see in the field on camp.

This year these will run on:
24-26 Feb, 14-17 April, 25-28 August and 24-26 November.

How do I get there?

Escort is usually 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 (Liz Ball, Cameron Kaye, Llew Gore and Christy Kaye at stores@fsc.org.uk) For any queries regarding travel to or from Stores weekends, please contact the Stores Hostesses: Maddy Hubbard and James Keith at hostess@fsc.org.uk

Weekends this year 2017

Weekends run from Friday evening to mid afternoon on Sunday.

January	13th - 15th
February	10th - 12th
March	10th - 12th
May	12th - 14th
June	9th - 11th
July	7th - 9th
September	8th - 10th
October	13th - 15th
November	10th - 12th
December	8th - 10th

HADDENHAM (HOUSE) AND FENWOOD

The 8.5 acre field we named Fenwood was purchased by FSC in 2005, as an extension to our existing 1.5 acre Stores Centre at Haddenham. In 2006 we planted the bare field with several thousand trees and these are now 12-15' high. The site has become an important wildlife refuge in an otherwise quite barren farming landscape. In November 2016 we held a planting weekend to celebrate Fenwood's tenth birthday. 110 children joined 85 staff to plant 620 new trees, which have settled in happily with their older siblings. The young trees will need to be cared for carefully for the next couple of years as they establish. 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.



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 stargazing 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 organized 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.	Date	Camp Leader	Camp Name
55	07/04 - 09/04	Matt Knight	Spring at Rushall Manor
56	21/04 - 23/04	Rad Wagon	Spring at Brazier's Park
57	29/09 - 01/10	Dan Bogle	Autumn at Brazier's Park
58	20/10 - 22/10	Lucy Roberts	Autumn at Rushall Manor
59	03/11 - 05/11	Sue Brearley	Wessex Wild Wooding

Age: 18+ Unless accompanied by a parent/guardian.

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 organizer.

Tetanus

All campers should be fully protected against tetanus well before camp.

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. Where coaches are used for escort, there will be 1 or 2 specific meet-up points where your child can join the escort party on the route. These are usually service stations on motorways. The number of stops will depend on the length and route of the journey. The organizer of the camp will communicate where the meet-up points are when travel is arranged.

If travel is by train, 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 who travel from the UK to foreign countries, including the Republic of Ireland, are covered by a 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. 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.

Alcohol, Cigarettes & 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.

Further Information

You will receive a pre-camp circular a few weeks before camp by email. This will include further information including use of mobile phones, Weil's disease, our internet policy and our alcohol/ illegal drugs policy



in addition to other information from your camp chief and/or organizers. Please ensure you and your child read and discuss this important information prior to camp

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 & Packing

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

a) Labeling – all clothing and equipment should be indelibly labeled with the camper's name.

b) 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.

c) 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

*optional

Equipment

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

Miscellaneous

- Cloth draw string 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)*

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;

a) PVC – This is tough, suitable for young children, and completely waterproof if somewhat heavy and a bit bulkier.

b) Proofed nylon - check that the coat is made of polyurethane- or PVC-coated nylon with taped seams to ensure it's fully waterproof. Ideally this sort of coat should also have a fabric or mesh lining for the child's comfort.

c) 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.

d) Rubberized 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. 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.

Pop-up tents are becoming increasingly popular, however they are awkward to carry as they do not fit into or attach easily to rucksacks. Please note these are unsuitable for mobile camps. They can be ok for younger children on shorter standing camps if they are a good make and have a porch. Please make sure your child knows how to strike / pop down their tent before camp. 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., 'Hollow-fill') 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.



UNDER TENS

Our experience at camp convinces us that the under tens need extra underwear, socks and two pairs of pajamas (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 specialized 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, 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 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, whilst 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 enhanced 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 – fsc.org.uk/parent/new_staff.htm
You can also email new.staff@fsc.org.uk

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 try to telephone them.

Chair

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

Enquiries Officer

enquiries@fsc.org.uk

Enquiries about Children's Enrolment

PO Box 3185,
London,
SW18 3JG
children@fsc.org.uk

Special (Inclusion) Enrolments

inclusion@fsc.org.uk

Camper Support (Financial)

aid.fund@fsc.org.uk

Associate Members' Secretary

associates@fsc.org.uk

New Staff Enquiries

new.staff@fsc.org.uk

Southern Camps Organiser (associates)

Megan Ruddock
171 Campbell Road,
Oxford,
OX4 3NX

Northern Camps Organisers (associates)

David and Hilary Hughes
Malkin House,
Brow Lane,
Holmfirth,
West Yorkshire,
HD9 2RJ

Conservation & Skills Camps Secretary

conservation@fsc.org.uk

Haddenham Stores Conveners

stores@fsc.org.uk

Haddenham Stores Hostesses

hostess@fsc.org.uk

Donations Officer

donations@fsc.org.uk

Website

www.fsc.org.uk

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CAMP DATES SUMMARY

No	Camp	Dates	Location	Fees	Age	Info
1	Mendip Cave Training	03.02-05.02	Mendip Hills	£45	15-17.11	E
2	Mendip Caving	11.02-15.02	Mendip Hills	£140	9-17.11	E
3	Spring In Dorset	08.04-15.04	Dorset	£300	9-17.11	
4	Hodore Mega Jam Party	08.04-15.04	Hodore	£300	9-17.11	
5	Trans-Wales Express	08.04-15.04	Wales	£300	12-17.11	
6	Mayday Stockton	29.04-01.05	Stockton	£110	6.6-17.11	
7	Venice	29.04-01.05	Midlands	£100	9-17.11	
8	Journey Into Gurn	29.04-01.05	Danbury	£110	6.6-17.11	
9	North Cotswolds Adventure	27.05-03.06	Hodore	£300	6.6-17.11	
10	Whitsun at Stockton	27.05-03.06	Stockton	£300	6.6-17.11	
11	Whitsun at Marlborough	27.05-03.06	Marlborough	£300	6.6-17.11	
12	Scotland Walking Mobile	27.05-03.06	NW. Scotland	£300	12-17.11	E
13	From Sea to Sea	27.05-03.06	Cumbria etc.	£300	11-17.11	E
20	The Big Stockton	27.07-05.08	Stockton	£400	6.6-17.11	*
21	Wessex Wild Swim	27.07-09.08	Wessex	£460	11-17.11	E
22	Cefngweiriog	27.07-09.08	W. Wales	£460	6.6-17.11	
23	Black Mountains	27.07-09.08	Black Mountains	£460	6.6-17.11	
24	Farndale 1	27.07-09.08	Farndale	£460	6.6-17.11	
25	Radnor 1	27.07-09.08	Radnor	£460	6.6-17.11	
26	Pembrokeshire Coast	27.07-09.08	Pembrokeshire	£460	6.6-17.11	
27	Reconstructing Harlech	27.07-09.08	Harlech	£460	6.6-17.11	
30	Farndale 2	12.08-20.08	Farndale	£355	6.6-17.11	
31	Rollicking Radnor	12.08-20.08	Radnor	£355	6.6-17.11	
32	Harlech Heatwave	12.08-20.08	Harlech	£355	6.6-17.11	
33	Dales Way Nomads	12.08-25.08	Dales	£460	10-17.11	
34	Hebridean Hi-Jinx	12.08-25.08	Hebrides	£475	12-17.11	
41	Dartmoor Cave Training	06.10-08.10	Dartmoor	£45	15-17.11	E
42	Dartmoor Caving	25.10-29.10	Dartmoor	£140	9-17.11	E
50	Early Assington	28.04-01.05	Assington		Family	A
51	Mildenhall Marvels	28.04-01.05	Marlborough		Family	A
52	Suffolk Frolic	26.05-29.05	Assington		Family	A
53	Borrowbeck Associated	09.06-11.06	Borrowbeck		Family	A
54	Gelt in the Mist	17.08-20.08	Cumbria		Family	A
55	Spring at Rushall Manor	07.04-09.04	Rushall		18+	SaCC
56	Spring at Brazier's Park	21.04-23.04	Brazier's Park		18+	SaCC
57	Autumn at Brazier's Park	29.09-01.10	Brazier's Park		18+	SaCC
58	Autumn at Rushall Manor	20.10-22.10	Rushall		18+	SaCC
59	Wessex Wild Wooding	03.11-05.11	Wessex		18+	SaCC
14	Campus	16.06-18.06	To Be Arranged		Staff Only	

E = Experienced FSC campers

SaCC = Skills & Conservation camps

A = Associate camps

* = This camp is for campers with disabilities

CAMP SITES





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