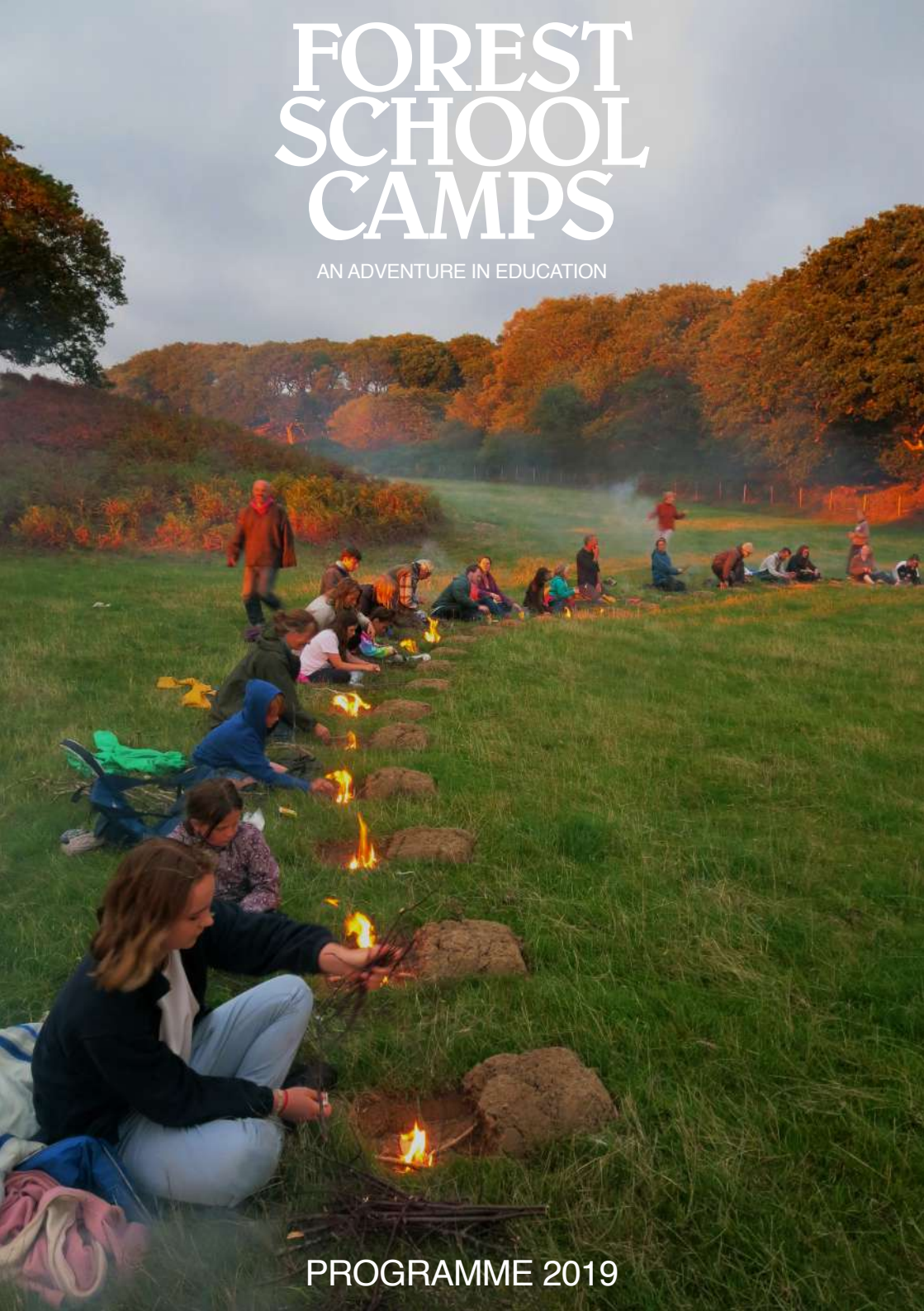


FOREST SCHOOL CAMPS

AN ADVENTURE IN EDUCATION



PROGRAMME 2019

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WHO WE ARE

Forest School Camps (FSC) is an outdoor educational charity, which creates opportunities for people from all backgrounds and of all abilities to live together in communities, away from towns and cities. We run camps under canvas throughout the year to give everyone the chance to unplug from their everyday lives and use the outdoors to create a sense of community, whilst connecting with the natural environment.

ORIGINS

FSC draws its roots from the original 1930s Forest School, an alternative school based first in the New Forest and later in Norfolk. The school drew its philosophy from progressive educators, the Woodcraft movement, First Nation Americans, and Quakers, amongst others. Special importance was attached to the experience of 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. The organisation has extensive experience in this field and its expertise in outdoor education is widely recognised.

HOW WE WORK

A voluntary organisation now 70 years old, FSC is very different to a commercial holiday company, as everyone working to make this amazing adventure happen does so voluntarily. All our staff, both at camp and running the organisation, are unpaid, trained volunteers, with DBS checks. Many staff camped as children and have continued to volunteer because the experience of being part of community living in a natural context remains an important part of their lives. The philosophy developed at camp is also

practised throughout the administrative organisation of FSC. The organisation is run through regular council meetings attended by FSC staff, and decisions about the charity are made by consensus. Our approach to education focuses on learning by doing: 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, resourcefulness, teamwork and respect. Children are able to discover how to use the natural environment to meet their needs, without electric lights and cookers, mobile phones or social media.

FSC is determined that all people be treated equally and have equal opportunity, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, religion or disability. 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!

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 children acquire the basic camping skills, learning 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. Staff and children alike, work together so that the magic of camp happens.

Singing, which often happens around a campfire as well as other times, is an important part of camp, sharing songs from generation to generation, camp to camp. Other activities during the camp may include swimming, woodcraft skills, exploring, night walks, country dancing, organized activities in trees and various FSC games. A two to four-day hike, which takes place during the camp, consolidates this knowledge. 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.



A First Nation American belief is that we will only be in touch with nature if we '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. Many of the traditions have developed out of physical necessity, such as rally (a meeting with everyone sitting in a circle to discuss what is going to happen through the day), the clans and the structure of the day. The end of camp is marked by two major events. At Merrymoot, the whole camp comes together to entertain each other with a mixture of songs, sketches and improvisations. At Lodge Common Council, the campers gather around a formal fire to reflect on the camp, recognise things which have gone well and suggest changes in activities or emphasis for the following year.

DISABLED CAMPERS

FSC strives to be inclusive: we run many camps that are suitable for disabled children or those who require extra staffing support. This year, Camp No. 20 Hodore 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. Email: inclusion@fsc.org.uk

ACTIVITY CAMPS

Activity camps are generally smaller than standing camps, usually with 15 to 25 children. Some mobiles are strenuous, others are easier. See the programme for more details. These are small camps for experienced FSC members who have attended one or more 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.

NEW CAMPERS

Each year there are some children who are camping for the first time. Staff are aware of this and 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 organiser will send more information about camp, recommended kit and is the person you can ask for further information about camp as needed. There will be a Parents' Precamps meeting on 28th April 2019 in London for parents, guardians and sponsors whose children are enrolled on spring, Whitsun or summer camps, particularly 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 a place in March 2019.

TRAVEL TO CAMP

Children and some staff arrive together at camp travelling by train and/or coach from London, unless otherwise specified. This journey is called 'escort' and is the beginning of camp. If possible children should travel on escort. Escort details will be sent before camp. 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. 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. The camp organiser will communicate where the meet-up points are when travel is arranged.

HOW TO ENROL

Please check that your child is eligible for a camp before applying. We can only take applications from children who have registered already, before November 30th 2018. The next registration period for camps in 2020 starts on 1st September 2019 and ends on 30th November 2019. As we are currently so oversubscribed, registration next year will only be open to those who have a birthday between 1st September 2011 and 28th February 2014.

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 Saturday 26th January for Easter camps and by Saturday 2nd February for later camps. Check the application form for the return address and deadline for each camp. Many 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 camps will be notified

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. You can apply for camps in different time periods. However please note we do not offer places to Elves at Easter and 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. Experienced campers may do more than one camp (e.g. Easter and summer), and if they are offered an Easter or weekend place this will not reduce their chance of being placed on a summer camp.

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, 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. At camp, children will join a group based on their age on 31st August 2019. 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 18. 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. For new applicants, the most likely time for your child to be successful is when they are Elf age. Please check the age range of campers for each camp when applying.



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 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).

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.

If the camper does not live in the United Kingdom permanently we may need to check their insurance cover before you camp.

CAMPER SUPPORT

No child should be unable to camp for financial reasons. FSC offers assistance with camp fees for one camp a year 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 fees.support@fsc.org.uk or contact your camp organiser.

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 a one off donation contact our Donations Officer: donations@fsc.org.uk 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.

DBS CHECKS

All FSC staff are required to have an up to date enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS – formerly 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.

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, although we do have to turn down applications due to the high demand for places. Fees include return fares from London, unless otherwise specified. 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 instalments and rebates for those travelling independently to camp. 10% of this total fee is treated as a non-refundable deposit, to cover our administration costs, once you have 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.



EASTER & 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 CAVE TRAINING FOR WITCHES

Camp Leaders: Sophie Meekings & Giles Vellacott

Organiser: Ian Peachey

Dates: Sat 6th April - Mon 8th April

Age: 15 - 17.11

Fees: £45

A camp for pathfinders and older trackers who already have caving experience. You will learn how to lead the caves that we will be exploring on the main camp. We also encourage staff new to caving to come along and give it a try.

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

2 CAVING FOR WITCHES

Camp Leaders: Sophie Meekings & Giles Vellacott

Organiser: Ian Peachey

Dates: Mon 8th April - Fri 12th April

Age: 10 - 17.11

Fees: £145

We will gather together where three counties meet to explore the hidden world beneath us. Staying in a cosy hut right next to the mysteriously named Bull Pot of the Witches, you can discover starless skies and underground rivers, sing in glorious echoing caverns, be as cautious as you like or as bold as you dare... and then come out and warm up with tea and cake and a hot shower. (Shh... don't tell the people on standing camps!). New cavers warmly welcomed. Caving equipment supplied.

Travel: The fees for this camp do NOT include travel costs. We will organise escort from London (and other parts of the country where appropriate) and will ask parents to pay a share of the cost.

3 FENWOOD CRAFT & SKILLS CAMP

Camp Chiefs: Daphne Carre & Lily Sida-Murray
Organiser: Bea Oliver
Date: Sat 13th April - Sat 20th April
Age: 9 - 17.11
Fees: £305

13 years ago FSC planted a woodland in a field beside our stores on the Cambridgeshire Fens. Now a thriving young forest grows there and Fenwood is ready for us to move in and make it home!

We aim to run a camp where everybody will use their craft and creativity to make things from a variety of materials and develop Fenwood into a special place for camping, country dancing, fruit picking, and for all the wildlife that has moved in too.

There will also be an opportunity to visit our Stores Centre and learn about how our camps are equipped.

4 SPRING IN SOMERSET

Camp Chiefs: Bea Patrick & Daniel Jacks
Organiser: Caroline Emlyn Jones
Date: Sat 13th April - Sat 20th April
Age: 9 - 17.11
Fees: £305

In out of the way places of the heart,
Where your thoughts never think to wander,
This beginning has been quietly forming,
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.

Awaken your spirit to adventure;
Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk;
Soon you will be home in a new rhythm,
For your soul senses the world that awaits
you.

5 EASTER EGGSPEDITION

Camp Chief: Jenny Dingle
Organiser: Jess Harris
Date: Sat 13th April - Sat 20th April
Age: 10 - 17.11
Fees: £305

We will walk through the Pumlumon mountains of Mid Wales, camping in some great wild places on the way. As well as walking there will be plenty of opportunity to learn new skills, paddle in streams, sing round the fire, play games and just enjoy being on a journey. The camp is for both experienced and less experienced walkers. Older campers will be encouraged to take on leadership roles if they would like that, and younger campers will be supported so the level of challenge is right for them.

SPRING CAMPS



6 THE COTSWOLDS ARE WAITING

Camp Chief: Julian Welsh
Organiser: Denise Largin
Date: Fri 3rd May - Mon 6th May
Age: 6.6 - 17.11
Fees: £115

What will you find here in the Cotswolds? You will have three days and nights to find a new friend, a new song, a new love for porridge; that washing is overrated, that you can do stuff for yourself, that you can light a fire with twigs, that you can cook tea for 60 people, that the hard ground can be a great bed, and that there is another you that has been waiting this moment to happen!

7 IT'S NOT THE DESTINATION, IT'S THE GLORY OF THE GURN

Camp Chiefs: Vic Doggart & Jimmy Proudlock
Organiser: Amy Robertson
Date: Fri 3rd May - Mon 6th May
Age: 6.6 - 17.11
Fees: £115

Comrades, sisters, brothers, old friends and NEW please join us to make merry mayhem and madness in the marvellous month of May, where we will play, work and learn. Glean and forage vital knowledge. Cavort in the bountiful, bluebell beauty. Climb and chill out in the magestic beech trees. Frolic in a frenzy of fire and fun.

Let's muck in - all 4 1 and 1 4 all.
Everyone is welcome - see you there.



8 VENICE

Camp Chief: Craig Grady
Organiser: Christina Weir
Date: Sat 4th May - Mon 6th May
Age: 9 - 17.11
Fees: £105

Join us as we meander by the canals that make up the industrial heritage of the Midlands. Our modes of transport will include canal barge, bus and Shank's pony (ask your parents). Our camp will culminate with a visit to the fantastic Black Country Museum.

Travel: Escort will depart from Marylebone Station at 8.00am on Saturday.

WHITSUN & EARLY SUMMER CAMPS



9 CAPTIVATING COTSWOLD

Camp Chief: Daniel Simon
Organiser: Rosa Dennis
Date: Sat 25th May - Sat 1st June
Age: 6.6 - 17.11
Fees: £305

Come join us in the captivating Cotswolds on our week of adventure with a nightgame, capture the flag, pea fair, merrymoot, craft and woodcraft - two weeks packed into one. There's a wood to make shelters in, a field for games and a stream for damming and paddling. All the while we will build our small community, cook, camp and toast marshmallows around our campfires.

10 WHITSUN AT HODORE

Camp Chiefs: Bates Abbotts & Holly Jacks
Organiser: Dinah Bornat
Date: Sat 25th May - Sat 1st June
Age: 6.6 - 17.11
Fees: £305

Awake to sunshine gold! zip
Open to sip brew
Bright air, heads appear, sky blue.

Stepping out, following tracks,
Clamber and whittle
Foraging wild ways together.

Leaning into afternoons
Of larking and song
Crafts, birds wing, swing your partner.

Warm glow of firelight on cheeks
Fern, moss, dappled green
Deep rooted circle of logs.

11 THE STOCKTON STOMP

Camp Chiefs: Polly Haste & Tom Walters
Organiser: Carol Matthews
Date: Sat 25th May - Sat 1st June
Age: 6.6 - 17.11
Fees: £305

Fire in your belly? How about fire in your hand! Join us as we explore new fire lighting techniques and cook up a camp craft feast. We will be making the most of the long days and open spaces to play games, build shelters and sleep out under the stars. Expect a high dose of friendship, music making and adventure.

12 SCOTTISH ADVENTURE

Camp Chiefs: Katy Cawkwell & Jim Gordon
Organiser: Katy Cawkwell
Date: Sat 25th May - Sat 1st June
Age: 11 - 17.11
Fees: £305

Come and join us in the wild mountains, on the shore of a remote loch. Here we will build a small FSC lodge, using canoes to transport some of our equipment and people. We will explore the magnificent environment in small groups, scrambling over rocks, designing our own adventures and challenges, some on foot, others by canoe. Suitable for hardy, experienced campers up for an adventure (last-year Woodlings and above), including disabled children.

13 WILD SWIM WEEKEND

Camp Chief: Jess McQuail
Organiser: Hanna Wheatley
Date: Fri 28th June - Sun 30th June
Age: 11 - 17.11
Fees: £115

Fancy a dip? How about a paddle? Or a bit of splashing around? Join us in Dorset for a weekend of swimming in the wild, cooking on open fires, songs and adventure. We may even synchronise with the ducks ... who knows.

Please note: All campers must be able to swim 50m

Travel: Escort leaves by coach from West London at about 4pm.

FIRST FORTNIGHT SUMMER CAMPS



20 COMING HOME TO HODORE

Camp Chiefs: Sophie Holloway Hintzen & Cairi Jacks
Organiser: TBC
Date: Thu 25th July - Sat 3rd August
Age: 6.6 - 17.11
Fees: £405

It's happening!
That extraordinarily beautiful thing that we do
We're going back to the land of Winnie the Pooh
To hunt some heffalumps
We're going to bounce like Tigger
Be wilder, be bigger
Pack your rucksack with magic and glee
Zingful and singful
It's about love and care
Be there, be square.
Be any shape you fancy.

21 HARLECH 1

Camp Chiefs: Ellen Rickford & Andy Doyle
Organiser: Karen Patrick
Date: Thu 25th July - Wed 7th August
Age: 6.6 - 17.11
Fees: £465

A full range standing camp set in the beautiful and dramatic hills above Harlech, with views of both Harlech Castle and Snowdon. So shake off that city grime and come and live in the hills with sprites. We aim to grow a community with our collective skills and spirits. Come ready to enjoy the summer and live in harmony with our neighbours and ourselves.

22 CEFNGWEIRIOG 1

Camp Chiefs: Kate Hall & Lou Munn
Organiser: Susan Watts
Date: Thu 25th July - Wed 7th August
Age: 6.6 - 17.11
Fees: £465

Come and join us on this magical site in West Wales. There's a lake, we'll bake cakes, swim and make, with our hands and our hearts. Bring your pyjamas, penknives, swimmers, socks and smiles. It's gorgeous at Cefngweiriog, come to play, to learn, to laugh and to rejuvenate. Together we will extend our community with new friends and old, in the way that only FSC can.

23 FARNDALE 1

Camp Chief: Sam Raphael
Organiser: Frances Currie
Date: Thu 25th July - Wed 7th August
Age: 9 - 17.11
Fees: £465

Calling all adventurers, big and small – are you up for it? This is going to be a high-energy mega-camp, where we will do what has never been done before, and where our singing will echo off the valley walls. If you want to sleep on hilltops in the company of friends, build sculptures and burn them, and play games until you drop, then this is the camp for you. Our destination is unknown, but wherever we go we'll have each other. That's adventure. Join us!





24 HEBRIDES: THE ISLE OF CAMP

Camp Chiefs: Jack Freedman & Brendan Chitty
Organiser: Caroline Fraser
Date: Thu 25th July - Wed 7th August
Age: 11 - 17.11
Fees: £480

To the north of where
most of us sit,
is an island,
we get there by ship.

With heather and beaches
of sand that is white.
Clear blue skies
perhaps northern lights

A wilderness isle
where we will exist.
But what could we do?
Well, let's make a list...

Swim, dig,
fire and dance.
Maybe a for a day
we'll pretend we're in France.

Potential adversity
the weather could bring.
But if it blows strongly
we'll get hearty and sing.

25 BLACK MOUNTAIN

Camp Chiefs: Nell Cameron & Dave Fuller
Organiser: Karen Mautner
Date: Thu 25th July - Wed 7th August
Age: 9 - 17.11
Fees: £465

Come to the black mountain, a site so
shrouded in mystery that even Nell and
Dave don't know where it is!

What will we do? A mystery
Where will we go on hike? No one knows
What songs will we sing? Couldn't tell you
What games will we play? We don't have
a clue

All we do know is that we will create
something magical on our mysterious site,
having fun and looking after each other.

If you want to take part in FSCs most
mysterious adventure then put Black
Mountain Mystery Camp on your application
form. But don't tell anyone, after all the first
rule of mystery camp is

...



26 HAFOD

Camp Chiefs: Andy Freedman & Robbie Gillett
Organiser: Anne Wilcocks
Date: Thu 25th July - Wed 7th August
Age: 6.6 - 17.11
Fees: £465

Sitting and sleeping close to the earth, we'll wrap ourselves in the beautiful mountains of West Wales. Let's delve into our past to create a fun future. Why do we sit in circles? What can we learn when we connect with nature? We'll sleep under the stars, build dens, light fires, play games, tell stories, dance, sing, listen and laugh together.

27 LONDON TO PARIS

Camp Chief: Simon Oatley
Organiser: Tessa Bull
Date: Thu 25th July - Wed 7th August
Age: 12 - 17.11
Fees: £465

Leaving London, we will weave our way across the downs to Newhaven then across the channel to Dieppe. L'Avenue Verte will take us through the beautiful French countryside to Paris. We will return by a parallel green way, ending back in London. This is an unsupported cycle mobile and we will be carrying all we need. We have some bikes and kit for those that need them, however campers will should be regular cyclists.

Please note: A passport which is valid until at least February 2020 will be needed for this camp. Financial support and advice about getting a passport is available if needed.

Please note: Children and staff going on overseas camps 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. Further up to date details of the insurance scheme can be provided on request.

SECOND FORTNIGHT SUMMER CAMPS



30 SAILING BYE

Camp Chiefs: Dave Monk & Patsy Nightingale
Organiser: Adam Burton
Date: Fri 9th August - Sun 18th August
Age: 12 - 17.11
Fees: £380

We shall anchor our tents in a small woodland at Waxham, perfectly placed on the Norfolk broads yet only a throw line's distance from sand dunes and beaches. We will use this as a base while sail training on The Broads in local traditional wooden craft. With nautical skills mastered and all our provisions and kit stored aboard we will set sail and cruise the Broads gathering supplies from local merchants as we go, sleeping in boats or on the bank in tents wherever we may find ourselves at sunset.

Good waterproofs and the ability to be comfortable in and under the water are a necessity for this camp. Campers must be able to swim 50 metres.

Please note: Life jackets will be supplied and worn at all times whilst sailing on the water.

31 HARLECH 2

Camp Chief: Leo Murray
Organiser: Penny Wiles
Date: Fri 9th August - Sun 18th August
Age: 6.6 - 17.11
Fees: £380

All these rectangles are bad for the soul! It's time to clamber out of our boxes and get into a circle instead. As we gather in the gloaming to sing and be merry, our fires will warm the stony scales of the old red dragon. The glow of the embers will mingle with the starlight and moonbeams to shine into our hearts, lighting up the very best versions of ourselves.

32 CEFNGWEIRIOG 2

Camp Chiefs: Amy Rose & Theo Middleton
Organiser: Kate Lewandowska
Date: Fri 9th August - Sun 18th August
Age: 6.6 - 17.11
Fees: £380

Operation Misty Dawn

The Bureau of Exploratory Affairs seeks team members for a ten day secret mission in a wet and sunny Welsh field. Please join if your idea of fun involves getting your hands dirty, belly laughs, sea swims, blindfolds and imaginative adventuring. Courageous and ridiculous suggestions for mission activities welcome.

No experience necessary. Remuneration dependent upon disappearance in bog.

33 FARNDALE 2

Camp Chiefs: Dora Clouttick & Oli Sumerling
Organiser: Sara Monahan
Date: Fri 9th August - Sun 18th August
Age: 6.6 - 17.11
Fees: £380

In the Valley of the Daffodils...

Come all ye to Farndale, surrounded by the wild moors, to open all your senses and your imagination's doors.

Jump under the waterfall for your bracing morning shower. Savour the laughter and the company, every minute, every hour.

Build dens, the odd lat, and plenty of roaring fires. Concoct gourmet breakfast dishes, new Arise! songs and starlit choirs.

We'll make all this together, each and every one of us. Literally the only possible downside: at the end, getting back on that sweaty bus.



AUTUMN CAMPS



40 PATHFINDER POSTCAMPS

Camp Chief: TBC
Organiser: TBC
Date: Fri 12th October - Sun 14th October
Age: 17 - 17.11
Fees: £15 plus £10 escort

Last year pathfinders are invited to get together for a weekend of celebration of your time as FSC children and to ready yourselves for your next steps in the world.

41 AUTUMN AHOY

Camp Chief: Lucy Jaffe
Organiser: Chris Tenant
Date: Mon 21st October - Fri 25th October
Age: 9 - 17.11
Fees: £145

This small lodge will stoke your fire, earth your body and fill your senses with wonder at the woods, which will be our home for 5 days and 4 nights. We'll make shelters to sleep in, fires to cook on and music to entertain both ourselves and the animals who live in Danbury woods. Jump onboard for a piece of camping action at the end of the year!



42 MENDIP CAVE

TRAINING

Camp Leader: Flow Stone
Organiser: Flow Stone
Date: Fri 4th October - Sun 6th October
Age: 15 - 17.11
Fees: £45

This training camp is for last year Trackers and Pathfinders who are experienced cavers and are interested in developing their skills in order to support other people in caves on FSC's main caving camps. Staff new to caving are also welcome to come and try caving at your own pace. Experienced caving staff needed too!

43 MENDIP CAVING

Camp Leader: Molly Hopinshaw
Organiser: Flow Stone
Date: Sat 26th October - Wed 30th October
Age: 9 - 17.11
Fees: £145

We shall be gathering in the Minaries Caving Hut for the first time in Autumn for many years. There will be much mist, mellow fruitfulness, and caving. We are excited to welcome people of all levels of experience for exploring enticing looking passageways, singing in echo-y caverns, climbing exhilarating waterfalls and then all coming home in time for tea and crumpets.

ASSOCIATE CAMPS

Parents and supporters who become Associate Members of FSC receive news of FSC's activities annually and are eligible to attend weekend camps especially for Associate Members and their families. The annual subscription is £10.

Associates Camps allow new campers with no FSC background to get a taster of FSC life and to decide whether camping with FSC is for them. For those who camped with FSC as children, former staff members and active members of staff with small children, they provide a continuing link to camp and an opportunity to introduce their families to FSC camping and to be part of a lodge.

Associate Members and FSC staff are all welcome at family camps with or without their children. Associate membership or active FSC staff status is required in order to apply for the camps. There is no age limit, upper or lower, and the camps are particularly suitable for very young children who may be camping for the first time.

Supervision of children is the responsibility of the adults who bring them, and there is no organised travel, allowing us to keep the fees to a minimum. Adults and children share in the communal cooking (clan), with food and cooking equipment provided by the camp. There are many of the usual FSC activities like rally, singing around the campfire, games, walks, and whatever the site and our ingenuity can produce.

Forms for Associate Membership can be found on the Downloads page of the website. These camps get booked up quickly, so don't delay in applying. Places are allocated on a first come first served basis. Associate Camp enrolment is changing this year to an online process so please read the instructions carefully when your programme arrives.

Note: 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.





50 BLINKING INTO THE SUFFOLK SUNLIGHT

Camp Leaders: Adrian Matthews & Simon Glenister

Dates: Fri 3rd May - Mon 6th May

Site: Assington Mill, Suffolk

Feeling disorientated, dispossessed, dangerously dystopic? We understand. Recovery will take more than 35 days but we can help. Shake off those backstop blues in the beautiful surroundings of Assington Mill where we will walk, talk, sing, dance and howl at the moon till our battered hearts are once more content.

51 MAYDAY MAGIC

Camp Leader: Becky Willis

Dates: Fri 3rd May - Mon 6th May

Site: Gelt Mill, Brampton, Cumbria

Come and celebrate Mayday with us on the banks of the river Gelt in Cumbria. There will definitely be fire, friends, singing, swimming and games. You might find the fairies (or even gorillas) if you look carefully. New and experienced campers, young and not so young, are all very welcome.

52 ALL SINGING, ALL DANCING

Camp Leaders: Clare Hedger & Lucy Shepherd

Dates: Fri 3rd May - Mon 6th May

Site: Mildenhall, Wiltshire

Come to Mildenhall for a marvellous mix of traditional FSC activities, with added je ne sais quoi to fill your May Day weekend with joy! We're not making a song and dance about this ... but that is this year's theme. Come with open ears and, if you like, bring tunes for everyone else to learn too. Expect wall-to-wall heel-and-toe dancing, and be ready to amaze yourself with your fancy footwork!

53 PUTTING THE SASS INTO ASSINGTON

Camp Leaders: Pam Henderson & Sara Hamilton

Dates: Fri 24th May - Mon 27th May

Site: Assington Mill, Suffolk

Join us for moon watching, star gazing, swimming, singing and playing. Look and listen out for the badgers, owls, deer, kingfishers and herons resident at this beautiful conservation reserve. Let's connect with nature, each other and ourselves while we have fun, hang out, sizzle, sway and sass.



54 EAST OF EDEN ASSOCIATES CAMP

Camp Leader: Liz Grayson
Dates: Fri 14th June - Sun 16th June
Site: Glassonby, Penrith, Cumbria

We are camping at a new site kindly offered by friends of an FSC staff member, which lies between Penrith and the Pennines near the river Eden. This will be a weekend of walking, cooking, singing, country dancing and, we hope, swimming in the river – meeting old friends and getting to know new ones.

STORES

What is 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.

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 at stores@fsc.org.uk. Weekends run from Friday evening to mid afternoon on Sunday. Please see 'other important dates' on page 33 for details.

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. The site has become an important wildlife refuge in an otherwise quite barren farming landscape. 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. Please see 'other important dates' on page 33 for details.





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. We expect to build an island this year! 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. Supervision of children is the responsibility of their parents or guardians.

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. Enrolments are normally managed in the four weeks before the camp, during which time we circulate those who have previously shown interest in attendance.

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

No	Date	Camp Leader	Camp Name
60	Apr 5th - 7th	Clare Bullock	Spring at Rushall Manor
61	Apr 26th - 28th	Rad Wagon	Spring at Braziers Park
62	Sep 20th - 22nd	Dan Bogle	Autumn at Braziers Park
63	Oct 18th - 20th	Matt Knight	Autumn at Rushall Manor

Age 18+ unless accompanied by a parent or guardian

THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE CAMP

Choosing equipment

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.

Labelling

All clothing and equipment should be indelibly labeled with the camper's name.

Packing

Involve your child in packing, limiting the number of bags to 3 – it is useful to line all bags with bin liners to ensure clothing and equipment is kept dry.

Tetanus

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

Ticks

Ticks are becoming more common on most sites. In areas where ticks are known, we are encouraging campers to wear long sleeved t-shirts and long or waterproof trousers tucked into socks to minimize risk of tick bites and tick-borne diseases, such as Lyme disease. Wearing insect repellants containing saltidin or citridiol which are available at chemists or outdoor suppliers, is also encouraged. Some insect repellents specifically mention that they are active in repelling ticks. All camps are provided with tick removers. More detailed information on this topic will be provided by your camp organiser and will be available on the web site.

Sunburn & Insect Bites

On camp we can be exposed to the elements and local mosquitoes. Please make sure that campers bring adequate,

high protection suncream, well-protecting sun hats and insect repellent.

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.

Mobile phones

Please make sure that mobile phones and other devices are left at home.

Precious Items

Anything you bring to camp may get wet or dirty. Leave precious things behind if possible.

Further information

You will receive a pre-camp circular a few weeks before camp by email with further important information to consider before camp with your child.

CAMP KIT LIST

Please make sure your child is well prepared for all conditions. On camp we live out in the elements and need to be prepared for wet, cold and sunny weather. The kit list below is a guide for you and your child to ensure they are equipped appropriately for camp. Please also look at the more detailed information on the website.

Clothing

- waterproof (not shower proof) jacket and trousers
- footwear (wellies, sturdy shoes or boots, light shoes or trainers)
- 3 warm tops (sweatshirts etc.)
- 4 pairs of trousers/jeans (8 for a fortnight or for under 10s)
- 2 warm woollen jerseys or fleeces
- 2 pairs of thick socks (4 for a fortnight or for under 10s)
- 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.)
- socks (minimum 6 for a week, 10 for a fortnight – they get wet!)
- underclothing

Equipment

- lightweight tent (we advise all campers bring a 1-2 person tent)
- groundsheet
- sleeping bag (two recommended for Easter)
- sleeping mat
- rucksack
- 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
- penknife
- notebook and pencil
- paper and stamps (for writing home)
- plastic bags/bin liners (for keeping things clean and dry)
- sunblock
- insect repellent
- musical instrument (nothing valuable!) *
- 'dressing up' clothes *
- materials for making things (e.g. embroidery thread) *

* optional

All campers will receive further guidance on suitable equipment from their camp organiser. Any camper who is unable to provide all the necessary equipment should contact aid fund (see section Campers).

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!).

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.

NEW STAFF

If you are over 18 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 games and activities. 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 http://fsc.org.uk/parent/new_staff.htm

You can also email new.staff@fsc.org.uk

NEW SITES

We are always keen to find new sites. If you have, or know of, twelve acres or so of land, which would be suitable for a camp please contact new.sites@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
Feimatta Conteh
chair@fsc.org.uk

Enquiries Officer
enquiries@fsc.org.uk

Enquiries about Children's Enrolment:
10 St Margarets Square
Cambridge
CB1 8AP
children@fsc.org.uk

Special (Inclusion) Enrolments
inclusion@fsc.org.uk

Camper Support (Financial)
fees.support@fsc.org.uk

Skills & Conservation Camps Secretary
conservation@fsc.org.uk

Haddenham Stores Conveners
stores@fsc.org.uk

Donations Officer
donations@fsc.org.uk

Associate Members' Secretary
associates@fsc.org.uk

People of Colour Committee
poc@fsc.org.uk

New Staff Enquiries
new.staff@fsc.org.uk

FSC Website
www.fsc.org.uk

Forest School Camps is a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity; Company Number 937722, Charity Number 306006. Registered address: Forest School Camps, Hill Row Causeway, Haddenham, Ely CB6 3PA

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OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

When	What	Where
Jan 11th - 13th	Stores weekend	Haddenham
Feb 8th - 10th	Stores weekend	Haddenham
Feb 22nd - 24th	House and grounds weekend	Haddenham/Fenwood
Mar 2nd	Council	Sheffield
Mar 8th - 10th	Stores weekend	Haddenham
Apr 18th - 22nd	House and grounds weekend	Haddenham/Fenwood
April 28th am	Precamps meeting	London
April 28th pm	Stores development information session	London
April 29th	Council	London
May 10th - 12th	Stores weekend	Haddenham
May 18th or 19th	Special extraordinary meeting to discuss stores development (council members)	London
June 7th - 9th	Stores weekend	Haddenham
June 16th	AGM/Council	London
July 5th - 7th	Stores weekend	Haddenham
July 12th - 14th	Nature immersion weekend (staff only)	TBC
Aug 23rd - 26th	InTENTsivecare/house & grounds weekend	Haddenham/Fenwood
Sep 6th - 8th	Stores weekend	Haddenham
Sep 13th - 15th	Postcamps (staff only)	TBC
Oct 5th	Council	Bristol
Oct 11th - 13th	Stores weekend	Haddenham
Nov 3rd	Council	London
Nov 22nd - 24th	House and grounds weekend	Haddenham/Fenwood
Dec 7th	Council	London
Dec 13th - 15th	Stores weekend	Haddenham

CAMPS SUMMARY

No	Camp	Dates	Location	Fees	Age	Info
1	Cave Training for Witches	06.04 - 08.04	Bull Pot	£45	15 - 17.11	E
2	Caving for Witches	08.04 - 12.04	Bull Pot	£145	10 - 17.11	E
3	Fenwood Craft & Skills Camp	13.04 - 20.04	Fenwood	£305	9 - 17.11	
4	Spring in Somerset	13.04 - 20.04	Somerset	£305	9 - 17.11	
5	Easter Eggspedition	13.04 - 20.04	Mid Wales	£305	10 - 17.11	E
6	The Cotswolds Are Waiting	03.05 - 06.05	North Cotswolds	£115	6.6 - 17.11	
7	It's Not the Destination it's the Glory of the Gurn	03.05 - 06.05	Danbury	£115	6.6 - 17.11	
8	Venice	04.05 - 06.05	Midlands	£105	9 - 17.11	
9	Captivating Cotswold	25.05 - 01.06	North Cotswolds	£305	6.6 - 17.11	
10	Whitsun at Hodore	25.05 - 01.06	Hodore	£305	6.6 - 17.11	
11	The Stockton Stomp	25.05 - 01.06	Stockton	£305	6.6 - 17.11	
12	Scottish Adventure	25.05 - 01.06	Scotland	£305	12 - 17.11	E
13	Wild Swim Weekend	28.06 - 30.06	Dorset	£115	12 - 17.11	
20	Hodore	25.07 - 03.08	Hodore	£405	6.6 - 17.11	*
21	Harlech 1	25.07 - 07.08	Harlech	£465	6.6 - 17.11	
22	Cefngweiriog 1	25.07 - 07.08	Cefngweiriog	£465	6.6 - 17.11	
23	Farndale 1	25.07 - 07.08	Farndale	£465	9 - 17.11	
24	Hebrides: The Isle of Camp	25.07 - 07.08	Hebrides	£480	6.6 - 17.11	
25	Black Mountain	25.07 - 07.08	Black Mountains	£465	9 - 17.11	
26	Hafod	25.07 - 07.08	Hafod	£465	6.6 - 17.11	
27	London to Paris	25.07 - 07.08	London to Paris	£465	12 - 17.11	E
30	Sailing Bye	09.08 - 18.08	Norfolk Broads	£380	12 - 17.11	
31	Harlech 2	09.08 - 18.08	Harlech	£380	6.6 - 17.11	
32	Cefngweiriog 2	09.08 - 18.08	Cefngweiriog	£380	6.6 - 17.11	
33	Farndale 2	09.08 - 18.08	Farndale	£380	6.6 - 17.11	
40	Pathfinder Postcamps	11.10 - 13.10	Fenwood	£15	16 - 17.11	
41	Autumn Ahoy	21.10 - 25.10	Danbury Woods	£145	9 - 17.11	
42	Mendip Cave Training	04.10 - 06.10	Mendips	£45	15 - 17.11	E
43	Mendip Caving	26.10 - 30.10	Mendips	£145	9 - 17.11	E
50	Blinking Into the Suffolk Sunlight	03.05 - 06.05	Assington		Family	A
51	Mayday Magic	03.05 - 06.05	Gelt Mill		Family	A
52	All Singing, All Dancing	03.05 - 06.05	Marlborough		Family	A
53	Putting the Sass Into Assington	24.05 - 27.05	Assington		Family	A
54	East of Eden Associates Camp	14.06 - 16.06	East of Eden		Family	A
60	Spring at Rushall Manor	05.04 - 07.04	Rushall Manor		N/A	SaCC
61	Spring at Braziers Park	26.04 - 28.04	Braziers Park		N/A	SaCC
62	Autumn at Braziers Park	20.09 - 22.09	Braziers Park		N/A	SaCC
63	Autumn at Rushall Manor	18.10 - 20.10	Rushall Manor		N/A	SaCC

E - This camp is for experienced FSC campers

* - This camp is for campers with disabilities

A - Associate camps

SaCC - Skills & conservation camps

CAMP SITES





FSC.ORG.UK