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9th January 2025

Woodlands Residential Visit: Year 5/6 children 2025-26 - (Current Year 4/5)

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have booked a residential visit to Woodlands Outdoor Education Centre for Monday 8th September – Friday 12th September, 2025. The Woodlands centre is situated in Glasbury-on-Wye, Wales. The centre is staffed by teachers with outdoor activity qualifications, who are responsible for the supervision of the activities; which usually include: caving, mountain walking, jungle gym, orienteering and problem solving. These activities are a great way to build the children's independence as they near the end of their time at primary school.



The week is exciting and demanding, both in the physical sense and in the requirement to co-operate as part of a responsible team, as well as being accountable for individual actions and property. The resident staff will look for examples of good teamwork and strength of character in meeting new challenges and children will be encouraged to demonstrate independence and initiative. On residential visits such as this, children of all confidence levels are able to improve hugely and the value of this visit cannot be overstated.

The overall cost of the week will be £360 (only a £10 increase from 2023). The cost covers: qualified supervision, return travel by coach, minibus use throughout the week, insurance, all meals and board and use of specialist equipment for the activities. The equipment provided includes: walking boots, waterproof anorak / trousers / backpack for daily use, fleece, caving suit, helmet, light and

Wellington boots for the caving days. Substantial discounts will be given for children in receipt of Pupil Premium funding, please see the office staff for further details.

The centre is owned and run by Oxfordshire Education Authority and is non-profit making. We appreciate that the cost to parents is significant, especially in a time of significant cost of living challenges, however, we still feel that Oxfordshire centres provide the best value for money. Hopefully, all families who have sent their children in recent years feel that it has been money well spent.



We are required to ask for an initial non-returnable deposit of £75 by 2nd April 2025, as this will need to be forwarded to Woodlands to confirm our places. Please make your payments and give your consent online. This does not have to be the full £75 in the first instance if you are paying before the deposit deadline. Once a deposit and permission form is received, we will send out a payment record along with details of an instalment plan, which is available. You are, of course, welcome to pay the balance in full!

We will be holding an information meeting for parents and pupils in due course – watch out for information in a separate letter. Children may be apprehensive about going, particularly if they don't have an older sibling who has already been on a residential visit such as this before. If this is the case, please come along to the meeting and we will do our best to reassure them. We are keen to take as many of the pupils as possible and, if we are made aware of potential issues, it is more likely that we can find a way of overcoming them. On previous trips, it has been possible to take the entire cohort and we would be delighted if this was the case again. Given the timing of the visit, at the beginning of the academic year, it will be particularly valuable to make those connections with classmates and for the teachers to get to know their classes really well.

Should you have any other queries, please contact the school office.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Horner, Miss Baxter & Miss Barrett



“Building Firm Foundations For Life”



WOODLANDS 2025

Please return to the SCHOOL OFFICE, in an envelope clearly marked 'WOODLANDS'.

I would like my child

_____ (full name)
to take part in the Year 5/6 residential visit to Woodlands
Outdoor Education Centre, Monday 8th September –
Friday 12th September, 2025.

Deposit to be paid by 2nd April 2025.

(Payment to be made via our online payment system)

I have paid £75 as a non-returnable deposit.

I have not yet made a payment, but will pay the deposit by the 2nd April deadline.

If you believe that your child is eligible for Pupil Premium funding, please contact the school office.

Signed: _____ *Parent/Guardian* Date: _____