

Benhurst Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs K. Hart BSC (Hons)

Thursday 27th May 2021

Year 6 Danbury Residential Tuesday 29th June - Friday 2nd July

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find below the full details of our upcoming residential trip to Essex Outdoors, Danbury. This letter contains all the information you will require in order to prepare your child for the visit. It also requests some important information from you regarding your child's medical needs.

Itinerary

We will leave school at 9.30am on Tuesday 29th June and arrive back at school at approximately 2.30pm on Friday 2nd July. The children will spend three nights away from home and will enjoy four full action-packed days at the Centre. We will travel there and back using Havering coaches. The children can arrive from 8.30am on Tuesday 29th June and bring their luggage straight into the main hall through the office door where they will remain until we depart at 9.30am. Unfortunately, parents will not be permitted into the school hall as we would normally do due to COVID restrictions however, you are very welcome to wait for the coaches to depart from Warren Drive at 9.30am to wave your children off! Please adhere to social distancing when waiting for the coaches to depart. The children will be accompanied for the duration of the trip by Miss Bergasse, Mrs Hillyer, Mrs Haskew, Miss Wright and Mrs McCarthy.

We will return from Danbury at approximately 2.30pm on Friday 2nd July. Children (and their siblings) may be collected from this time. Children are welcome to stay until 3.30pm as normal or attend Abacus if they usually do but we ask that all children are collected by an adult and not asked to walk home. The children are usually exhausted when they return and we want to ensure their safety on the way home.

Accommodation

The group will stay in wooden pods that sleep up to 8 children in bunk beds. Staff will also sleep in separate pods which are positioned between the children's pods. The children will be regularly checked by staff throughout the night and the children can alert the staff if they need help or support during the night. The pods will be single-sex and the children will be with at least one friend of their choice. There is also a toilet/shower block within the vicinity which the children have access to. The children will be told their group when they arrive at Danbury.

Day Groups

Children will have a mixed daytime group of up to 10 children with one fully qualified instructor and one member of Benhurst staff per group. Each session is led by a member of Danbury staff who are fully qualified to lead the sessions; they are also medically trained. We will ensure the children have at least one friend of their choice. The children will be told their group when they arrive at Danbury.



Proposed Activities

The daily timetable will include a range of outdoor activities such as archery, canoeing, mountain biking and aerial trekking. The exact activity timetable is shared with the children when we arrive at Danbury but will include some of the activities above and other similar challenges. The children are encouraged to take part in every activity but none are compulsory and each activity will be adapted based on the skill of the group. (E.G Pupils will be taught how to ride a bike during the Mountain bike session if they are not already competent riders).

Evening Activities

Benhurst staff will provide evening activities for the children which will take place after dinner. We are keeping these a secret from you and the children but we can assure you they will love them!

Food and Drink

The children will require a packed lunch for the first day at Danbury. The stay will then be fully catered. The children will be provided with breakfast (hot and cold options), lunch and dinner every day, and will have access to fresh water and squash throughout the day. The menu is very child-friendly; any specific dietary requirements will be communicated with the catering staff. Whilst additional food is not required, we understand that children may want to bring snacks and sweets for 'midnight feasts', in this case we would ask that you avoid packing any items containing nuts, bubble/chewing gum or sweets which are particular choking hazards such as hard-boiled sweets/Haribo Pinballs.

Consent/Medical information

It is extremely important that we obtain your consent and up - to date medical information ahead of the residential. Please complete the following Google Form by Friday 18th June. <https://forms.gle/Ncn7RidaGuBV6Nub8> . Please include all medical information even if we are already aware of your child's needs as a school as this will be communicated with all staff members attending and Danbury staff as required.

Medication should be handed directly to Miss Bergasse on the morning of the trip. All medication must be clearly labelled with your child's name and contain clear instructions regarding how/when to administer.

Contact

We will regularly tweet photographs of the children throughout the trip so you can see what the children are up to!

Any emergencies at home should be communicated via the school mobile number (07729086539) which will remain with myself. This can be used out of hours. I will then contact one of the staff on the trip if required.

Health and Safety

There is a First Aid centre onsite and a First Aider on call at all times.

Other Information

- The children are not permitted to take mobile phones/tablets/electronics etc
- Inexpensive cameras are welcomed although remain the responsibility of the children.
- The children do not require any money for the trip. There are no shops at Danbury!
- All medication must be given to the school on the day of departure.
- We will send updates via Twitter (@benhurstprimary) throughout our stay.
- Further information about Danbury Residential Centre can be found at - <https://www.essexoutdoors.com/danbury.php>. This will also provide up to date COVID guidance.



Suggested Kit List

Toiletries: shower gel, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, etc.

A towel

Underwear and socks (including some spares!)

Nightclothes

3 pairs of trousers (jeans are not recommended for comfort and safety reasons)

4 T-shirts

1 long-sleeved top for archery

2 sweatshirts / fleeces

Waterproof jacket (hopefully not needed but important to have)

Waterproof trousers if possible

Suitable footwear, e.g. trainers

An extra old pair of trainers (to wear for the water activities)

Flip flops/sandals for casual wearing in and around the pods

Sun hat and sun cream (just in case we see the sun!)

Two empty plastic bags or bin liners for dirty / wet clothes

Drinks bottle to refill throughout the week. (We have found that school water bottles or disposable bottles are more robust than the hard plastic bottles which crack if dropped).

A camera (this is optional and we usually suggest a disposable)

Sleeping bag, pillow case

Mobile phones and other electronic devices are strictly prohibited.

Other than the packed lunch for the first day, the children will not need to bring any food and drink.

Please note that luggage should be limited to one bag per child which they can carry themselves!

Old, casual and easily washable clothes (including spares) are highly recommended due to the nature of the activities.

I hope this letter has provided all the information you require however, if you have any questions specific to your child or the visit in general, please submit them via the following Google form by Friday 11th June and we will send out a FAQ sheet in response to the questions.
<https://forms.gle/AZFPzxYapJ3DUEGS8>

We know the children will have a wonderful time and will make long - lasting memories!

Yours Sincerely,



Mrs K Hart
Head Teacher