

FOREST SCHOOL CAMPS

An Adventure In Education



PROGRAMME
2015

Welcome

Welcome to the FSC Programme 2015.

It is vital that you thoroughly read the programme carefully. The main points are highlighted below.

Please read the Important Information pages carefully before applying for camp.

1st Fortnight Summer Camps run from 29th July - 11th August. 2nd Fortnight Summer Camps run from 13th - 26th August. Please note these are 13 day camps and make sure you check the dates of all camps carefully.

The split of the age groups is covered in the How to Enrol section.

We are only able to offer new camp places to children of primary school age. In 2015 this means that potential first-time campers must have a date of birth between 01.09.2003 and 28.02.2009 and must have been registered with us before 30th November 2014.

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.

Contents

About Forest School Camps	3
Important Information	
How to Enrol	4
Camp Fees	5
Cancellation	5
Aid Fund	6
Donations	6
Campers with Disabilities	6
Parent's Meeting	6
DBS Checks	6
New Sites	7
Camp Life	7
New Campers	7
Camps	
Easter & Earlier	8
Spring Camps	10
Whitsun & Early Summer Camps	11
Summer Camps	14
Autumn Camps	20
Associate Camps	22
Skills & Conservation Camps	24

Additional Information

FSC Stores	25
House and Grounds	26
Preparing for Camp	27
Camp Kit List	28
New Staff	32
Contacts	33
Camp Dates	34
Camp Sites Map	35



About Forest School

Forest School Camps (FSC) is not a commercial holiday company; it is an educational charity and a voluntary organisation. All our officers and staff are unpaid volunteers.

The original Forest School, which ran in the 1930s, drew its philosophy from progressive educators, from the Woodcraft movements and the Native Americans, from Quakers and others. Special importance was attached to the experience of boys and girls, children and adults, learning to work and play together close to nature.

FSC began in 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 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.

A Native American belief is that you will only be in touch with nature if you 'sit and sleep on the earth'. This feeling for the wholeness of life on our planet is expressed in some of our rituals and the names we give things at camp.

The philosophy developed at camp is practised throughout the administrative organisation of FSC. When you enrol your children, you become part of FSC and this approach. Many staff members begin their association with FSC as parents or campers.

Camp is great fun, though at a practical level it can also be cold and wet, and often dirty. Despite this, many people camp again and again and again. Join us to find out why!

How to Enrol

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

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

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

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

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

Please return your forms by FRIDAY 30th JANUARY for February and Easter camps and by FRIDAY 6th FEBRUARY for later camps. If you want to attend the February Cave Training, please apply as soon as possible. Check the application form for the return address and deadline for each camp. Our camps are over-subscribed and late applicants will be at a disadvantage. However, we place children to ensure that camps are balanced by age, gender and experience, so some applicants applying before the deadline may still be disappointed. Please make sure your email contact details are correct when you return your application.



Successful applicants for Easter and February 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 post-summer camps will be confirmed later in the year.

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

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

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

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

*Only children who have already registered with FSC can apply to camp in 2015. Applicants for camp in 2016 should register before 30th November 2015.

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.

to camp with a sibling and a friend we will prioritise placing with a sibling over placing with a friend.

Most activity camps are for experienced FSC campers only, ie 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 2015. Each group camps separately from the others, so siblings or friends can only share a tent if they are in the same group. The groups are:

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

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

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

Camp Fees

Fees for each camp are listed with the individual camp details.

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 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.

Cancellation

If you have to cancel a place at a camp, please write to the Children's Secretary, Forest School Camps, PO Box 3185 London SW18 3JG Children.Secretary@fsc.org.uk, giving the reason as soon as possible.

If you cancel we will refund fees as follows:

Less than 6 weeks before camp – no refund (because we are unlikely to be able to enrol another child)

Less than 8 weeks before camp 70% refund

More than 8 weeks before camp 90% refund
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.



Camper Support and Aid Fund

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

Donations

FSC is very grateful to receive donations. This enables other children to enjoy the experience of FSC and for our kit to be maintained. Please go to the Paying Fees Online section of our website. Alternatively make cheques payable to Forest School Camps and send them to the Finance Group (see contacts page). If you would like to make your donation more tax efficient through the use of Gift Aid, or would like to make a regular donation by standing order, please visit our website and download the form, or let the Finance Group know and they will send you the appropriate form.

Children with Special Needs

FSC strives to be inclusive and runs lots of camps that are suitable for children with disabilities and additional needs. 'Seven Seas of Stockton' is the camp specifically for children with disabilities. We integrate children into other camps which are marked throughout the programme. We are more than happy to advise parents, guardians or

sponsors which camp would be the most suitable for a particular child. Some children may need a high level of support and a sense of continuity by camping with the same fellow campers and staff. This can be organised by arrangement so do contact us for more information.

If you feel that your child with disabilities would enjoy camping, please do not let the cost deter you from applying as FSC is able to arrange financial assistance.

Parents or guardians of campers with disabilities should send their applications directly to special.needs@fsc.org.uk or write to:

Michael Whelan

FSC Special Enrolments, PO Box 3185, London, SW18 3JG

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

Parents' Meeting

There will be a meeting on Saturday 18th April 2014 in North London for parents, guardians and sponsors whose children are enrolled on spring, Whitsun or summer camps for the first time.

This will be an opportunity for you to meet some of the staff of the camps and to find out more about FSC. Full details of the meeting will be sent to you with your offer of a place in March. If you do not have a child enrolled, but would like to attend the meeting, details may be obtained from the Enquiries Officer (see contacts page) after 1st April.

Criminal Record Checks (DBS)

All FSC staff are required to have an up to date enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS – formally CRB) check before they can be enrolled to staff on our child camps. This is standard procedure for anyone working with children or vulnerable adults. 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.

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:

Ruth Illingworth (For camps committee)
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, organised activities in trees, campfires, and various FSC games. The end of camp is marked by two major events: Merrymoot and Lodge Common Council. At Merrymoot, the whole camp gathers to entertain each other with a mixture of songs, sketches and improvisations. At Lodge Common Council, the campers gather around a formal fire and review the camp, suggesting changes in activities or emphasis for the following year.

After a few standing camps, many children are ready to try an activity camp. Most of these camps are semi-mobile or mobile, 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 particularly wide choice of active and mobile camps in the 2015 programme. Why not make this the year to try something new?

New Campers

Going to camp for the first time can seem scary. Camp life is very different from the lifestyle most of us are used to, but children fit in very quickly and enjoy the experience of living in an FSC community. Both staff and children are learning all the time, and every camp has its own good and bad times for everyone.

Each year there are some children who are camping for the first time. Staff make every effort to ensure that new children feel at home and secure. Camp is a caring community where everyone tries to be alert to each individual's hopes and fears. The camp starts on the escort journey, and it's a good idea for children to travel with the escorted party if at all possible. This is where people first start to get to know each other.

Further information and advice will come by email a few weeks before camp starts.



Easter and Earlier Camps

Please note the dates of the following camps carefully.

There are often more places available on Easter camps than on Whitsun and summer camps. The weather at Easter is sometimes challenging, but the result is often a particularly close and enjoyable camp.

1

Dates: Fri 6th to Sun 8th Feb
Ages: 15 - 17.11

Mendips Cave Training

Camp Chief: Flow Stone
Organiser: Flow Stone

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

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

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

Fees: £45

2

Dates: Sat 14th to Wed 18th Feb
Ages: 11 - 17.11

Mendips Caving in February

Camp Chief: Giles Vellacott
Organiser: Giles Vellacott

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

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

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

Fees: £130



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

3

Dates: Sat 4th to Sat 11th April

Ages: 9 - 17.11

Quantock Magic

Camp Chiefs: George Torode and Jack Hanson

Organiser: Emma O'Bryen

Can you hear the Quantock Hills calling your name? Like whispers in the wind they are calling our names inviting us come to make our home in this beautiful Somerset location. For a week in Easter we will be creating a caring lodge in these mysterious hills. There will be adventures, creation and toe-warming camp fires a plenty. Come and join the Quantock magic!

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £275



Easter & Earlier

4

Dates: Sat 4th to Sat 11th April

Ages: 9 - 17.11

There's No Place Like Hodore

Camp Chiefs: Polly Sands and Jack Freedman

Organiser: Caroline Emlyn Jones

We will escape the dullness of modern living, creating our home next to the Medway River, in the realm of the fantastic Hodore farm. We intend to perform awesome stunts, share spectacles of an incredible nature and to marvel at the spectacle of nature. We shall make fire, shelter and hilarity together. The songs we sing and the dance moves we pop will warm our hearts and lift our spirits. Our bellies will be filled with the food we cook. We have but few opportunities to live in such a close, creative community. The camp is the clay and we are the hands that shape it. So go on, click your heels together, get on down and get your hands dirty. Your heels may get dirty also, this is East Sussex not Kansas!

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £275

Please send your applications to:
FSC Enrolments, PO BOX 3185, London, SW18 3JG

Spring Camps

5

Dates: Fri 1st to Mon 4th May
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

The Gurnology Revisited

Camp Chiefs: Vic Doggart and Jim Proudlock
Organiser: Jess McQuail

RED ALERT..... welcome dear hearts to a mixed bag of mayhem, madness and profound peace in that wild and wondrous wood. A place for contemplation - a place made extraordinary by human histories where we will tamper with wood craft, wail to the moon, go beltane bonkers, celebrate the difference and potter with old friends and new relishing in the revitalisation of that deep gurnological groove.... This inter-generational mixed-ability camp welcomes one and all. This camp may leave in school time or shortly after the end of the day.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £105



6

Dates: Fri 1st to Mon 4th May
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Stockton Weekend

Camp Chiefs: Laurence Higgins & Ellie Rendal
Organiser: Sylvie Leithgoe

Come and enjoy a fast-paced three night camp near the beautiful Stockton Woods. We will build fires, eat in circles, have fun, sing songs, sleep well, wake early, make friends and pack as much as we can into our 72 hours. Come and see what adventures you can have with people you've only just met. This is a camp for everyone, and is particularly good for FSC first timers. This camp may leave in school time or shortly after the end of the day.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £105

7

Dates: Sat 2nd to Mon 4th May
Ages: 9 - 17.11

Venice

Camp Chief: Roddy Brooks & Stephan Ashford
Organiser: Catherine Clarke

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

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Train from London.

Fees: £95

Please send your applications to:
FSC Enrolments, PO BOX 3185, London, SW18 3JG

Whitsun & Early Summer

8

Dates: Sat 23rd - Sat 30th May
Ages: 9-17.11

Adventure in the New Forest

Camp Chiefs: Julian Ford
Organiser: Christina Weir

Come for an adventure in the New Forest, this is a new site so we will be breaking new ground, there will be weather so bring your wellies and sun hat ready for camp fires, singing, country dancing and lots of fun and woodcraft. Suitable for new and old campers alike.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £275



9

Dates: Sat 23rd - Sat 30th May
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Hoedown

Camp Chief: Simon Oatley and Dasiy Beattie
Organiser: Fiona Clarke

Come to our beautiful meadow surrounded by woods where we will be exploring the hedgerows, dancing over the dewy moss, whittling, starting fires, cooking, painting, singing, hiding, playing and generally having an amazing adventure with new friends and old. We're going to have a lovely time.

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £275

10

Dates: Sat 23rd - Sat 30th May
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Pembrokeshire Coast

Camp Chief: Andy Freedman & Liam Smeeth
Organiser: Emma Gledhill

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

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach or train from London.

Fees: £275

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

Spring

Whitsun &
Early Summer

Dates: Fri 5th to Sun 7th June
Ages: Staff Only

Campus

Camp Chiefs: Giles Last and Giles Vellocott
Organiser: Janine Gray & Giles Vellocott

This will be a hard working weekend (Friday to Sunday for the main event, but for those who can, Thursday night to Monday) for those who want to acquire, develop or share core skills that contribute to our camps. This is for everyone whether inexperienced or highly skilled. We will use a new site at Kittisford, near Wellington in Somerset, where there are a variety of woods and meadows. We will be canvassing everyone expressing interest to find out what you would like to learn, or what you feel you could help others to learn. We expect that the most experienced will leave with new understanding, and everyone will build their confidence in their ability to care for themselves and others at camp. The programme is not yet written / finalised but we are looking at building further on our core fundamental skills of: the recognition and use of woods, for carving or construction or fuel, nature training, interesting cooking techniques, maps and navigation, bushcraft skills, dancing and singing & the techniques of passing on knowledge. Please contact us with suggestions of what you want to learn or pass on.

Fees: We will try to minimise costs through car sharing, and ask for a voluntary contribution of food costs at approx. £5.00/day, but all expenses will be paid if needed.



11

Dates: Fri 5th to Sun 7th June
Ages: 10 - 17.11

Great Ouse Canoe Training

Camp Chiefs: Joe Hallgarten
Organiser: Dinah Bornat

Canoe Kayak? Yes you can, even if you've never picked up a paddle before. We'll spend a weekend splashing around on the calm and beautiful River Ouse, paddling to Newport Pagnell to buy our food. We'll learn the basics of kayaking, and everything else you might need in case your next step is a canoe mobile camp. We'll cook in small groups and enjoy the long June days. Rain or shine, we will definitely get soaked. This camp may leave in school time or shortly after the end of the day.

Extra info: Beginners to canoeing welcome. All campers must be able to swim 50m. This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Train from London.

Fees: £95



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

12

Dates: 13th June 2015
Ages: 14 - 17.11

France Mobile Training

Camp Chief: Laurence Higgins
Organiser: Kate Hall

Want to meet your fellow campers and staff? Look at routes? Prepare for camp and see where we will go? Then come to the mobile training weekend. **Please note that if you have not done a mobile and wish to camp on camp number 35 (Alpine Adventure) you will need to apply to do this camp.**

Extra Info: This is a one day camp.

Travel: No escort - meeting at Richmond station.

Fees: £35

13

Dates: Fri 10th-Sun 12th July
Ages: 11 - 17.11

2 Days on 2 Wheels

Camp Chiefs: Simon Oatley and Craig Grady
Organiser: Craig Grady

Carrying only what we need each day (luggage fairies will take the rest), we will leave Richmond and weave our way into Surrey, past palaces and royal parks to Epsom. This camp is an introduction to mobile camping and cycling with FSC. Cooking in groups and moving on each day we will cycle on tracks and roads and learn about cycling in groups. There will be games, songs and plenty of fun. This camp may leave in school time or shortly after the end of the day.

Extra Info: This camp may not be suitable for campers with physical difficulties.

Travel: No escorted party. Drop off Richmond (exact location tbc).

Pick up Epsom (exact location tbc).

Fees: £95

Whitsun &
Early Summer



Please send your applications to:
FSC Enrolments, PO BOX 3185, London, SW18 3JG

First Fortnight Summer Camps

Please note summer camp dates carefully.

- 1st fortnight summer camp dates are Wed 29th Jul - Fri 11th Aug (Except camp 20)
- 2nd Fortnight summer camp dates are: Thurs 13th Aug - Weds 26th Aug

20

Dates: Wed 29th July-Fri 7th August
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Seven Seas of Stockton

Camp Chiefs: Michael Whelan & Sophie Nathan
Organiser: Rachel Young

Ahoy there me hearties!

WANTED: Adventurous pirates young and old to join our motley crew to voyage upon the high seas of Stockton. Expect to work hard and play harder as we set sail for undiscovered lands. There will be singing, looting, feasting and merriment, and we'll sleep under the stars once the day is done. No experience necessary, enthusiasm essential.

Extra info: This camp is **only** for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £430

21

Dates: Wed 29th July-Tues 11th August
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Radnor 1

Camp Chiefs: Andy Doyle & Jan Pitt
Organiser: Karen Patrick

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

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from central London.

Fees: £430



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

22

Dates: Wed 29th July-Tues 11th August
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Harlech 1

Camp Chief: Rod & Julie Gritten
Organiser: Jess Harris

The ancient oak woods, mountains and rivers of this Welsh valley are calling us home to a time when we knew how to be in harmony with the living Earth. Let's share our skills, laughter, courage and joy. Be prepared to have your body, mind and spirit stretched as you become a self-reliant, valued member of the lodge. As we become passionately connected to the land we will grow in trust and honour ourselves in friendship and song.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £430

23

Dates: Wed 29th July-Tues 11th August
Ages: 11 - 17.11

Wild Side

Camp Chiefs: Dave Monk & Neale Jevey
Organiser: Liz Ball

Have you ever wanted to find an endless deserted beach, or a horizon that is dawn till dusk, a night sky that makes you gasp - well so have we and we think we may have found them all in the Hebrides. Just 5 hours from the Scottish west coast, South Uist is the island site of our dreams; it redefines the extremes of sun, wind, rain and calm that you ever thought could exist (let alone in one place, and all within a single hour!) Expose your Wild Side and we'll meet you on the beach.

Travel: Train or coach from London.

Fees: £430

24

Dates: Wed 29th July-Tues 11th August
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Towy 1

Camp Chief: Bryson Gore & Ed Straw
Organiser: Penny Wiles

Every now and then you get the chance to be a real Pathfinder, a real Trailseeker or just an honest explorer as FSC tries out a new camp site. Why not come along to Towy I where no one has ever pitched a tent, turfed a fireplace or dug a lat. When it comes to hike NOBODY knows where you'll be going... nestled in the valley of the river Towy, on the western edge of the Brecon Beacons National Park our new site is 20 meters from the river Towy itself (although reassuringly it is also 20m ABOVE the river as well!) So be prepared for daily dips and dam building to go with old songs around new camp fires. And never forget... "The only way is Cymry!"

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from Central London.

Fees: £430



25

Dates: Wed 29th July-Tues 11th August
Ages: 6.6-17.11

Teviotdale

Camp Chiefs: Stefan Baker & Polly Shields
Organiser: Denise Largin

Do you want to be part of something amazing? Come to glorious Teviotdale in the Borders where we'll be exploring our Scottish surroundings, building our creative community, and learning from each other. Bring your senses of adventure and humour; your singing voice and socks; energy and empathy... and be prepared for incredible views, exhilaration and exhaustion, and magic moments to remember forever.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £430

26

Dates: Wed 29th July-Tues 11th August
Ages: 6.6- 17.11

By The Light Of The Mulberry Moon (Farndale)

Camp Chiefs: Nick Steed
Organiser: Nicola Malin

How much can we achieve at night on camp? Songs and stories, walks and games, vigils? All these and more are on offer on this traditional camp with a twist. We will be camping at our beautiful Farndale site in the North Yorkshire Moors, but don't worry we will fit in all the daytime stuff too, expect to get home tired and happy. See you there.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £430

27

Dates: Wed 29th July-Tues 11th August
Ages: 12 - 17.11

Wye Canoe

Camp Chiefs: Em Munn & Steve Fletcher
Organiser: Tessa Bull

Paddle, paddle, paddle! This exciting canoe journey will take us on an adventure through the wonderful Wye Valley, as we travel 90 miles down the England/Wales border from Glasbury to Tintern Abbey. We will be carrying all our equipment in the canoes, shopping for food and cooking in small groups as we camp overnight on the banks of the river. With lots of canoeing and playing on the river, this will be an active camp, combined with the usual magical FSC mix of fun, fires and friends, swimming, stargazing and singing.

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

Travel: Travel by train from Paddington to Hereford, then minibus to site.

Fees: £430



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

Second Fortnight Summer Camps

31

Thurs 13th- Wed 26th August
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Radnor 2

Camp Chiefs: Ben Keith and Zoe Prag
Organiser: Patricia Bowler

This camp will be about trying new things and building a community in the fields of Radnor, bordered by the River Ithon. Come prepared to make new friends, learn woodcraft skills and light some fires. The campfires will be at the heart of our camp – so bring your songs and voices. We will have also have opportunities to orienteer, cook marshmallows, swim in the river, play games, eat steamed pudding and create magical moments for all ages.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £430



32

Dates: Thurs 13th- Wed 26th August
Ages: 11 - 17.11

Mountains and Sea (walking semi-mobile Harlech 2)

Camp Chiefs: Caroline Whalley & Roger Bradshaw

Organiser: Katy Beale

Come and explore the Rhinogau. Overnight at the spectacular Llyn Du. Follow the Romans up the steps....Cooking our food on stoves in small groups, we will be hiking from our base at the Harlech site. We'll walk up remote mountains and down to the beach, peak bagging and wild swimming, so come prepared to yomp, stroll or float as the occasion demands. Back at base, we will make fires, sing and stargaze. This camp will be ideal both as an introduction to mobiles and if you are more experienced; however, you must have done at least 2 Forest School Camps before.

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Train or coach from London.

Fees: £430



Wild Swim Recycled

Camp Chiefs: Sue Brearley & Rad Wagon

Organiser: Karen Mautner

Camped by the beautiful River Stour we'll swim every day with the otters, then hike to the Jurassic Coast and search the sea for dinosaurs. Will the Merrymoot stage float? Will the hot tub get hot? Join us and find out... If you want to, there may be the opportunity to bring your bike along as well.

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

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £430



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

34

Dates: Thurs 13th- Wed 26th August
Ages: 6.6 - 17.11

Farndale 2

Camp Chiefs: Joel Smith & Clare Williams

Organiser: Crystal Summerfield

Camping in North Yorkshire is definitely Moorish, whether it is having breakfast in Fryup, gathering flowers in Rosedale, or counting how many Hutton le Holes it takes to fill the Albert Hall. We will be pushing our boundaries, spreading our wings and coming home brimming with confidence after two weeks discovering just what we can do together in a field in God's own County of Yorkshire. 'Appen ahll sithee there!

Extra info: This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities.

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £430



35

Dates: Thurs 13th- Wed 26th August
Ages: 14 - 17.11

Alpine Adventure

Camp Chief: Laurence Higgens

Organiser: Kate Hall

Ever asked for a campsite in French? Wondered how many pains au chocolat you can get with an entire day's hike budget? There is only one way to find out. We will be exploring some of the wonderful Alpine mountain range in the south of France, taking in the rivers, lakes and passes of the region. Starting near the city of Grenoble we will be heading East so you will need good walking boots and a taste for adventure. Please note the following: This is a mobile camp and will involve hiking distances with full packs. Children who have not been on a mobile before will need to attend the training camp (10) on 13 June 2015.

Travel: Train from London.

Fees: £430



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

Autumn Camps

41

Dates: Fri 4th Sept to Sun 6th Sept
Ages: 17 - 17.11

Pathfinder Postcamps

Camp Chiefs: Nicky Birch & Lisa Hallgarten
Organisers: Nicky Birch & Lisa Hallgarten

Last-year Pathfinders are invited to get together with old friends and new for a weekend of song, dance and play, to celebrate your time as a child on FSC and send you out into the world with a spring in your step. Prepare to work a little, laugh a lot, and find out the secrets of camp, the universe and (almost) everything. Please book a.s.a.p. to ensure your place on camp.

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

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £35

42

Dates: Fri 2nd Oct to Sun 4th Oct
Ages: 15 - 17.11

Devon Cave Training

Camp Chief: Flow Stone
Organiser: Flow Stone

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

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

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

Fees: £45



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

43

Dates: Sat 24th Oct to Wed 28th Oct
Ages: 11 - 17.11

Autumn Caving In Dartmoor

Camp Chief: Giles Vellacot
Organiser: Alison Luker

Staying in the Pengelly cave hut to enjoy the beauty of Dartmoor in the autumn and the local caves with their special characteristics – mud in Pridhams Leigh, warmth in Bakers pot. This camp is suited to beginner cavers.

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

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

Fees: £150



44

Dates: Mon 26th Oct to Fri 30th Oct
Ages: 10 - 17.11

Bare Necessities

Camp Chiefs: Dave Monk
Organiser: Sara Monahan

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

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

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

Travel: Coach from London.

Fees: £150



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 £5 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 organised 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.

Associate Members' Secretary: Peter Kessler

Associates@fsc.org.uk

Southern Camps Organiser

Jayne Jenkins

5 West Chantry

Harrow

HA3 6NX

Northern Camps Organisers

David and Hilary Hughes

Malkin House

Brow Lane

Holmfirth

West Yorkshire

HD71RJ

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.

51

Dates: Fri 1st to Mon 4th May

Assington Assingation

Camp Leaders: Adrian Matthews & Simon Glenister

Come celebrate the ancient British fire festival of Beltane and international workers day in the perfect tranquil surroundings of Assington Farm in Suffolk. The camp will breath life into tired winter bones, invigorate young and old alike and feed and nourish our souls to face the coming year. Assign yourself without delay to avoid disappointment.

52

Dates: Fri 1st to Mon 4th May

All the Little Birds Go Tweet, Tweet, Tweet

Camp Leaders: Jan Holloway & Anita Andrews

This year we will be running another one of our legendary, music-based, biodynamic, birdsong-saturated weekends of arts, crafts, song and dance. You will learn how to both picnic and barn dance with wilderness survival skills in mind. For those of you not used to a dawn chorus turned up to 11, bring ear plugs. But be warned: with the previous camp chief now the caterer, and a younger brother who has dethroned his older brother running the camp alongside the mysterious fire sculptress, expect more intrigue than an episode of Game of Thrones. Anything could happen. Spring is coming.

54

Dates: Fri 26th to Sun 28th June

Borrowbeck Associates

Camp Leader: Liz Grayson

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.



53

Dates: Fri 22nd to Mon 25th May

Get Yer Assington Gear

Camp Leaders: Quentin Rea and Nelleke van Helfteren

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



Skills & Conservation Camps

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

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

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

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

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

No.	Camp	Leaders	Dates
55	Rushall Manor	Matt Knight & Martin Powell	Fri 10th – Sun 12th April
56	Braziers Park	Rad Wagon	Fri 24th – Sun 26th April
57	Braziers Park	Dan Bogle & Rad Wagon	Weds 25th – Weds 27th September
58	Rushall Manor	Lucy Roberts	Fri 23rd – Sun 25th October
Ages		18+ Unless accompanied by a parent/guardian.	



FSC Stores

What is FSC Stores?

FSC Stores is where we keep all our equipment. We send out around twenty tonnes of equipment every year and we unpack, maintain and repack at our site in Cambridgeshire. While we do so we sing, dance, laugh and play games; you can come and 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. Under 18s 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!).

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

How do I get there?

Escort is usually arranged from London Kings Cross every month. There are also regular attendees traveling from all around the country who may be able to offer lifts, or we can arrange to get you picked up from Ely station.

Who can tell me more?

For further information regarding the Stores weekends, please contact the FSC Stores Conveners:

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

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

Becca Powell and Twm Ford
hostess@fsc.org.uk

Weekends this year (2015):

Weekends run from Friday evening to mid afternoon on Sunday. Please check dates before making plans, as some are provisional.

January 9th - 11th	July 3rd – 5th
February 6th - 8th	August 28th – (Mon) 31st (House & Fenwood)
February 27th - March 1st (House & Fenwood)	September 4th - 6th
March 13th – 15th	October 2nd – 4th
April 3rd – (Mon) 6th (House & Fenwood)	November 6th – 8th
May 8th – 10th	November 27th – 29th (House & Fenwood)
June 12th - 14th	December 11th – 13th



House and Grounds

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, Cambs CB6 3PA. In 2006 we planted the bare field with several thousand trees and these are now 12-15' high. The created woodland is now used as a campsite and a training area to meet our educational needs. The stores site and its adjoining woodland have 4 dedicated weekends each year during which we manage the trees and fences and maintain the buildings. Help is always needed to ensure that the woodland matures into a valuable resource for FSC to camp and train in and the barns and workshops continue to support the equipment vital to the running of our annual programme.



Preparing for Camp

Equipment

You probably already own most of the things you need for a standing camp. Warm, well-worn clothing is required. The only essential extras are a sleeping bag and really effective waterproofs; we don't always take shelter when it rains. We ask that families who continue to camp with us try to supply at least one two-person tent. Full details of what to bring to standing camps are given in the kit list section. For mobile camps some more specialist equipment may be required - see extra notes in the kit list - but full details will be sent to you by your camp organiser.

Tetanus

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

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 organiser 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 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.

Further information

You will receive a pre-camp circular a few weeks before camp, probably by email. This will include further information including use of mobile phones, Weil's disease, our internet policy and our alcohol policy in addition to other information from your camp chief and/or organisers. Please ensure you and your child read and discuss this important information prior to camp where appropriate.

Camp Kit List



On camp we live out in the elements. Staying warm and dry on a wet day, or not suffering from sunburn after a hot one, makes a big difference to a child's enjoyment of camp. Learning to live comfortably in the outdoors in all weathers is an important part of camp life.

Please make sure your child is well prepared for all conditions. The kit list below is a distillation of our experience and is meant as a helpful guide for you and your child to ensure they are appropriately equipped at camp.

General Notes

Reasonably priced equipment is available from several high street camping shops – it is not necessary to invest in the best or most expensive equipment for camp, but do make sure that what you buy is fit for purpose. Very cheap discount equipment often does not stand up to the 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 and packing

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

- Labelling – all clothing and equipment should be indelibly labelled with the camper's name.
- All campers should be involved in their packing. A surprising number of items are lost because the camper did not know that they brought them in the first place, or did not know where they were packed.
- Efficient packing. Please make sure that your camper's equipment is packed inside no more than 3 bags – multiple items increase the chance of loss, and items strapped or tied on to the top of bags are at risk of coming off and being lost. In addition to a rucksack, a canvas bag, kitbag, or zipped holdall is good for remaining luggage. Line all luggage with waterproof bags – rubble sacks or strong bin liners are great for this. Inside these, it is a good idea to separate different types of clothing and put them in different, supermarket-style plastic bags – one each for underwear, socks, tops, trousers, jumpers, etc. Label these bags to show their contents and it's much easier for your child (and their group staff) to find what they need, rather than rummaging around in an enormous sack.

Clothing

For a one-week camp.

For a fortnight camp, pack double quantities of trousers and thick socks. This is especially necessary for under-11s.

- rainwear (Note 1)
- footwear (Note 2)
- 3 warm tops (sweatshirts etc)
- 4 pairs of trousers/jeans (Note 3) (8 for a fortnight for under-11s)

- 2 warm woollen jerseys or fleeces
- thick socks, 2 pairs (4 for a fortnight for under-11s)
- pyjamas/track suit
- swimming costume
- sunhat
- woollen hat and gloves
- handkerchiefs/tissues
- shorts/dress/skirt (optional)

And depending on the length of camp, an appropriate number of...

- light tops (T-shirts etc) (Note 3)
- socks (minimum 6 for a week, 10 for a fortnight – they get wet!)
- underclothing

Equipment

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

- 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)*

Miscellaneous

Cloth bag containing:

- plastic mug

* optional

Note 1: Rainwear

Every camper should have a complete set of rainwear. Several types of garment are suitable for camp, but the essential features of them all are that they are completely waterproof, and that headwear (a hood or hat) and waterproof trousers are included. If possible test your camper's waterproofs under the shower or garden hose (but remember if you selected badly you may not be able to return them to the shop after this!)

Suitable types of rainwear include those made from;

- PVC – This is tough, suitable for young children, and completely waterproof if somewhat heavy and a bit bulkier.
- Proofed nylon – Check that the proofing is waterproof e.g. neoprene lining, and that the seams are taped to ensure they are waterproof.
- Breathable "Gore-Tex" or similar garments are also suitable if fully waterproof, but bear in mind they are more expensive and should be 3 layer (rather than 2) so that they stand up to the harsh treatment they may receive at camp.
- Rubberised fabric or oilskins are tough and waterproof, but heavier.

AVOID: Lightweight nylon cagoules with chemically treated seams – they will leak after anything more than a shower; "Barbour" or other similar waxed jackets – they are not waterproof in sustained wet conditions and are expensive.

Note 2: Footwear

Even at standing camps we do a lot of rough walking, so footwear must be comfortable. Leather walking boots are ideal as they provide ankle support, good foot protection, and have good grip in most conditions. For younger children, sturdy trainers with a good grip may be adequate. As it is often wet underfoot, Wellingtons are recommended for all campers and are ESSENTIAL for the under 11s – make sure they are big enough to accommodate thick socks, and that they tuck inside your waterproof trousers.

In addition, campers may wish to have some lighter footwear for wearing around camp e.g. light trainers, plimsolls, sandals or similar.

All footwear must be well walked-in before camp.

Note 3: Shirt/Top and Trousers

Jeans are tough but terrible to wear when wet, so bring a variety of types of trousers. Tracksuit bottoms are ideal. Fleece trousers are great on cold days. Bear in mind that synthetic fibres dry quickly – cotton stays wet and cold for ages.

At least one light top should be long sleeved with a collar to protect against the sun by day, and insects by night.

Clothing that can be worn in many layers is much more flexible, and allows adjustment to the weather and conditions better.

Note 4: Tents

FSC holds a limited supply of small tents which we can lend to campers at standing camps. Those who continue to camp will want to get a tent of their own.

Tents should be fully waterproof, and should have 2 layers – an inner and a flysheet. Single layer nylon tents will not withstand heavy rain and are unsuitable.

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

Tents should be suitable for at least 2 people but also remember that they may need to be carried on hike or mobile camps. Both A frame (less common now, and more costly), and dome tents are suitable subject to the previous conditions.

When choosing a tent, make sure it is both stable and waterproof in windy conditions (if the flysheet and inner tent can touch in the wind, it will leak). If flexible poles are used, alloy are stronger than fibreglass, but will increase the cost. A porch which can be used for storing gear is very useful. Porches also help keep the inner tent dry when getting in on a rainy day.

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.

Mobile Camps

Lightweight tents, cooking stoves, fuel containers and billies are needed. A tent should have a flysheet, a sewn-in groundsheet and should ideally weigh less than 1.5 kg per person sharing it. You will normally be expected to supply at least one of the above items. Your camp chief will supply a complete specialised kit list and can advise you what to buy (or borrow).

When packing for walking mobiles, all your kit (with some space left for food) must fit inside your rucksack. Strong, waterproof walking boots with Vibram soles, or similar, are essential; they must be comfortable and be well walked-in.

For canoeing mobiles, your kit has to be

packed into several small waterproof bundles. Kitbags (maximum size 80cm by 30cm diameter) and a small frameless rucksack are best; anything larger will not fit into a canoe. On cycling mobiles, you must wear a helmet and all your kit must fit inside your panniers and saddle bags (leaving some space for food!).

Under Tens

Our experience at camp convinces us that the under tens need extra underwear, socks and two pairs of pyjamas (three for a fortnight). Waterproofs should be large enough for the tops to fit comfortably over several layers, and the bottoms to fit over wellingtons.

New Staff

If you are over eighteen and you think FSC sounds like your sort of organisation, do give us a try. We can't offer much in the way of money – just expenses – but the good company of like-minded adults of all ages keeps many people coming back year after year.

Some of our best staff are recruited by children returning from camp and urging their parents to join in the fun. We provide training in practical camping skills and also make sure that each camp has a balance of new and experienced staff so that each person can continue 'learning by doing'.

If you enjoy the open air, the company of children and being part of a community, come along to a weekend training camp, find out what's involved and see whether you enjoy it. Parents often have much needed experience in child care, younger staff have more energy for boisterous games and activities. Whether you're zany and imaginative or down to earth and dependable, we need your talents!

Training camps last for two or three days (generally over a bank holiday), and run alongside a regular camp. Before being offered a space on a training weekend, we require that trainees have completed an 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, or write to

Feimatta Conteh

Unit 1

Cotton Mill

Catwalk Place

Overbury Road

London

N15 6RH



Contacts

All our workers are voluntary and help Forest School Camps in their spare time. While every effort is made to deal with enrolments and correspondence promptly, some delays are unavoidable. Please only write to or email our officers; do not try to telephone them.

Chair

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

Enquiries Officer

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

Enquiries about Children's Enrolment:

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

Special Enrolments

Michael Whelan
PO Box 3185, London, SW18 3JG
special.needs@fsc.org.uk

Finance Group

Forest School Camps
Hill Row Causeway, Haddenham, Ely, CB6 3PA
treasurer@fsc.org.uk

Camper Support (Financial)

Frances Rainford
Hill Row Causeway, Haddenham, Ely, CB6 3PA
aid.fund@fsc.org.uk

Associate Members' Secretary

Peter Kessler
associates@fsc.org.uk

Southern Camps Organiser

Jayne Jenkins
5 West Chantry, Harrow, HA3 6NX

Northern Camps Organisers

David and Hilary Hughes
Malkin House, Brow Lane, Holmfirth,
West Yorkshire, HD7 1RJ

Conservation & Skills Camps Secretary

conservation@fsc.org.uk

Haddenham Stores Conveners

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

Haddenham Stores Hostesses

Becca Powell and Twm Ford
hostess@fsc.org.uk

New Staff Enquiries

new.staff@fsc.org.uk

Donations Officer

donations@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

Data Protection Statement: Information on FSC's database is held under the provision of the Data Protection Act. It is held exclusively for promoting the proper functioning of the charity, Forest School Camps.

www.fsc.org.uk

Camp Dates Summary

No.	Dates	Name	Location	Ages	Fee	Info
1	6.2.15 - 8.2.15	Mendips Cave Training	Mendips	15 - 17.11	£45	E
2	14.2.15 - 18.2.15	Mendips Caving in February	Mendips	11 - 17.11	£130	-
3	4.4.15 - 17.11.15	Quantock Magic	Somerset	9 - 17.11	£275	D
4	4.4.15 - 11.4.15	There's No Place Like Hodore	Hodore	9 - 17.11	£275	D
5	1.5.15 - 4.5.15	The Gurnology Revisited	Danbury	6.6 - 17.11	£265	D
6	1.5.15 - 4.5.15	Stockton Weekend	Stockton	6.6 - 17.11	£105	D
7	2.5.15 - 4.5.15	Venice	Midlands	9 - 17.11	£95	D
8	23.5.15 - 30.5.15	Adventure in the New Forest	New Forest	9 - 17.11	£275	D
9	23.5.15 - 30.5.15	Hoedown	Hodore	6.6 - 17.11	£275	-
10	23.5.15 - 30.5.15	Pembrokeshire Coast	Pembrokeshire	6.6 - 17.11	£275	D
-	5.6.15 - 7.6.15	Campus	Somerset	Staff Only	-	-
11	5.6.15 - 7.6.15	Great Ouse Canoe Training	Bucks	10 - 17.11	£95	D
12	13.6.15	France Mobile Training	Richmond	14 - 17.11	£35	-
13	10.7.15 - 12.7.15	2 Days on 2 Wheels	Surrey	11 - 17.11	£95	-
20	29.7.15 - 7.8.15	Seven Seas of Stockton	Stockton	6.6 - 17.11	£430	D
21	29.7.15 - 11.8.15	Radnor 1	Radnor	6.6 - 17.11	£430	D
22	29.7.15 - 11.8.15	Harlech 1	Harlech	6.6 - 17.11	£430	D
23	29.7.15 - 11.8.15	Wild Side	Hebrides	11 - 17.11	£430	-
24	29.7.15 - 11.8.15	Towy 1	Mid-Wales	6.6 - 17.11	£430	D
25	29.7.15 - 11.8.15	Teviotdale	Teviotdale	6.6 - 17.11	£430	D
26	29.7.15 - 11.8.15	By The Light of the Mulberry Moon	Famdale	6.6 - 17.11	£430	D
27	29.7.15 - 11.8.15	Wye Canoe	Wye Valley	12 - 17.11	£430	E
31	13.8.15 - 26.8.15	Radnor 2	Radnor	6.6 - 17.11	£430	D
32	13.8.15 - 26.8.15	Mountains & Sea (Harlech 2)	Harlech	11 - 17.11	£430	E
33	13.8.15 - 26.8.15	Wild Swim Recycled	Dorset	12 - 17.11	£430	-
34	13.8.15 - 26.8.15	Famdale 2	Famdale	6.6 - 17.11	£430	D
35	13.8.15 - 26.8.15	Alpine Adventure	France	14 - 17.11	£430	-
41	4.9.15 - 6.9.15	Pathfinder Postcamps	Fenwood	17 - 17.11	£35	-
42	2.10.15 - 4.10.15	Devon Cave Training	Devon	15 - 17.11	£45	E
43	24.10.15 - 28.10.15	Autumn Caving in Dartmoor	Devon	11 - 17.11	£150	E
44	26.10.15 - 30.10.15	Bare Necessities	Danbury	10 - 17.11	£150	A
51	1.5.15 - 4.5.15	Assington Assignment	Assington	Family	N/A	A
52	1.5.15 - 4.5.15	All the Little Birds Go Tweet...	Braziers Park	Family	N/A	A
53	22.5.15 - 25.5.15	Get Yer Assington Gear	Assington	Family	N/A	A
54	26.6.15 - 28.6.15	Borrowbeck Associates	Borrowbeck	Family	N/A	SACC
55	10.4.15 - 12.4.15	Rushall Manor	Rushall	N/A	N/A	SACC
56	24.4.15 - 26.4.15	Braziers Park	Braziers Park	N/A	N/A	SACC
57	25.9.15 - 27.9.15	Braziers Park	Braziers Park	N/A	N/A	SACC
58	23.10.15 - 25.10.15	Rushall Manor	Rushall	N/A	N/A	SACC

E = Experienced FSC campers only SACC = Skills & conservation camps

A = Associate camps

D = This camp is suitable for campers with disabilities

Camp Sites





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

