

# Robinwood meeting notes

Course dates: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2017

## Travel

The bus will leave school at approximately 9.20am on Wednesday and will return at approximately 4.30pm on Friday afternoon. School will be informed of our progress on the journey back so they will have a more accurate time of our arrival.

## Activities

The children will have a busy schedule and will undertake activities such as the piranha pool, zip-wire, giant swing, trapeze, climbing, archery, caving, canoeing, stream walk, and many other!

## Water Confidence

The centre states that children do not need to be able to swim to take part in the water activities such as canoeing and the stream walk, though they must be confident in water.

## Wet and Muddy Clothes

You will be provided with a clothing list. The centre will provide the children with wellingtons, waterproofs and warm woolly pullovers. It is likely that children's clothes will get wet and muddy so it is advisable not to wear new clothing. There is a drying room available, particularly for footwear, coats and towels. There is also a laundry facility where group leaders collect in dirty clothing and wash, dry and return them to children. Each group's clothing goes into a different bucket and is returned to the group the next day. It is important that **all clothing is named**.

## Risk Assessments

Detailed risk assessments are carried out of all activities and areas at Robinwood. Staff at the centre are fully trained to carry out activities safely. All activities are aimed at a safe, introductory level for the 8-11 year old age range. Activities will be a challenge for the children, but they will remain in a safe, well supervised environment throughout. At all times the staffing ratios meet or exceeds the ratios laid down by national governing bodies.

## Groupings

Children across the year group are split into small groups with up to 13 children in each activity group. Each group has a Group Leader and a member of school staff who stays with their group throughout the 3 day course for all activity sessions. All dormitories have bunk beds and sleep between 4-14 pupils.

## Evening and Night Time Supervision

The dormitories are patrolled throughout the night and rooms have a call button should they need to be used. School staff are nearby with rooms close to the children. School staff are known to all the Robinwood night duty staff and can be called upon.

## Meals

All groups have a cooked breakfast and cooked evening meal. A light lunch is provided. Sugar-free juice and water is available throughout the day, as well as a hot drink and biscuit before bed.

Examples of food available is set out below.

- Breakfast: cereals and toasts together with a cooked breakfast e.g. sausage and beans, bacon and tomatoes or beans on toast.
- Lunch: Packed lunch provided by the centre on the expedition walk (first day). Sandwiches, choice of fillings, are offered every day of the course but hot dogs and/or baked potatoes with fillings are offered as an alternative. Fruit, crisps and biscuit are also offered.
- Evening meal: typical meals include pizza, chicken, steamed vegetables, pasta bolognese and curry and rice. Sweets offered include fruit, ice cream and apple crumble.
- Children are asked on the first day for their choice of meals for the rest of the course.

### Personal Information Forms

Please ensure all medical requirements are added to the 'Personal Information Form', as well as any dietary needs. Once you have received this form in September, please complete and **return it to school as soon as possible**. There will be an opportunity to change information on the form prior to the start of the visit, should this be required.

### Recommendations/Suggestions

We recommend that children do not bring anything valuable with them such as computer consoles, music players or mobile phones. There will be no time for such activities and there is no mobile phone reception at Robinwood. Children's cameras are not permitted at Robinwood.

If there is a problem and you need to be contacted we will phone school. They will then contact you, unless it is an emergency where we will contact you directly. Should you need to get in contact with us, phone school and they will contact us at the centre.

If possible, please ensure your child knows how to shower and dress themselves independently, including drying themselves and tying shoe laces.

Do not pack food in the children's suitcases unless it is written down on the medical form. There may be children with food allergies sharing rooms and also the food can attract vermin to dormitories.

### Next Meeting

There will be a brief meeting shortly before the visit to inform you of departure arrangements. A letter will be forwarded nearer the time with details of the exact date and time of the meeting.

### Payments:

To book your child's place, a £20 deposit is due by **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February**.

The balance is payable by Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July.

We are pleased to inform you that you can now pay your deposit and further instalments for Robinwood online.

Log in to your Online Banking page and click on the 'Payments' link.

Enter the sort code and account number as follows.

Sort Code           30-96-15

Account Number       01481533

Please put your child's name in the reference section so we can match your payment to your child on our payments list. If you would like a paper record from school, please remember to send your green payment card in when you have made a payment online, which you will receive after you have paid your deposit.

Have a query or concern? Please contact J Duddin in the school office.   0191 200 8723  
[marinepark.first@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:marinepark.first@northtyneside.gov.uk)

If you have any other questions about the trip, other than payments, please contact Mr Harrison, 4 North, who will be happy to help!