



# Bishop Wordsworth's School

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Head Master: Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

13 May 2019

Dear Parents

## To Parents of Year 7 Pupils attending the Camp at Great Yews – July 2019

Your sons will be camping on the following dates:

7J	Depart Sunday 30 June	Return Monday 1 July
7M	Depart Monday 1 July	Return Tuesday 2 July
7O	Depart Tuesday 2 July	Return Wednesday 3 July
7P	Depart Wednesday 3 July	Return Thursday 4 July
7W	Depart Thursday 4 July	Return Friday 5 July

On the day of departure boys attend School in their camping clothes; deposit their kit in a designated area; attend their activity, and then leave for Great Yews as soon as possible after 4.00 pm. School bags/books are left in School (in a designated area) to be collected upon their return. Boys return to School during the afternoon of the following day and we will aim to get them back between 2.30 and 3.00 pm. They will be dirty and are usually very tired and, therefore, a lift home would probably be very welcome!

Whilst at camp, boys work in groups of about half a dozen. Each group is responsible for its own cooking; boys will be fully briefed about this in order that they can decide who will be responsible for providing specific items of equipment and food.

What follows is a list of recommended clothing and equipment, plus some general advice about appropriate foodstuff.

### 1. Essentials

#### (a) Clothing

- an old pair of trousers or jogging trousers
- PE T-shirt
- rugby shirt
- rugby shorts
- thick sweater or thermal top
- waterproof (preferably with a hood)
- spare socks and underwear
- walking boots/shoes or trainers, plus a spare pair of footwear (lightweight – e.g. desert boots, sandals, etc)

NB: Clothing is likely to get very dirty (and will be subject to a lot of “wear and tear”) and, therefore, it is not advisable to take expensive/fashionable items.

- (b) A sleeping bag
- (c) Small towel and basic wash kit
- (d) Basic cooking and eating utensils
  - Knife, fork, spoon (no sharps please)
  - Tin/plastic mug
  - Tin/plastic plate
  - Water container (1 litre capacity)
  - Tin opener
  - Matches
  - Plastic bag (for rubbish)
  - Brillo pad
  - An old saucepan or frying pan or mess tins (each boy to provide one of these items for his group).

A small selection of utensils and cooking equipment will also be available for boys to borrow and use.

- (e) Tent - not every boy needs his own tent: approx 1 tent for every 3 boys.

2. Optional items - useful but not essential

- Torch
- Basic First Aid Kit (e.g. plasters, antiseptic wipes, antiseptic cream, etc).

3. Forbidden Items

Please ensure that your sons **do not** bring any of the following to camp:

- Knives
- Fireworks and pyrotechnic devices (flares, etc)
- Drugs (other than those medically prescribed)
- Inflammable liquids (eg petrol, lighter fuel, etc)
- Aerosols and portable gas cookers
- Alcohol and tobacco products
- Radios, music players/ipods, smart watches, electronic games, etc
- Air guns, paintball guns, replica firearms, etc
- Large sums of money.

**We would also advise boys NOT to bring mobile 'phones on the trip.** Not only are they vulnerable to damage and/or loss, there is no signal in a wide area around the camp site so cannot be used. Any emergency contact will be arranged by the staff, and updates on the group's arrival time at school will be posted on the @BWSTrips twitter feed.

4. Food

Boys will require a snack lunch to eat on the day of their return to School. We recommend that this should consist of high-energy items which may be readily consumed, if necessary, whilst walking: eg nuts and dried fruit, biscuits, a chocolate bar and boiled sweets.

They will also need food to cook for the evening meal and breakfast. This food should be substantial but simple to prepare: tinned beans, stews, curries, etc are recommended. Meat products such as sausages should be packed frozen on the

morning of departure day so that they will be freshly defrosted by the evening when they will be cooked. Boys should also have a reasonable supply of such items as tea, coffee, sugar, powdered milk, bread etc. Canned fizzy drinks are not suitable, and eggs always present a problem due to their delicacy.

Tents, spare clothing, sleeping bags, equipment and food should be secured in a bag or rucksack which must be marked clearly with your son's name and form. These bags will be transported to and from Great Yews by vehicle.

Included for your information is a brief outline of the activities cycle:

1. 1600 approx Boys depart on foot for Great Yews
2. 1830 approx Boys arrive at Great Yews
3. 1830 – 1930 Site briefing and equipment sorting
4. 1930 – 2130 Campfire cooking and evening meal
5. 2130 – 2230 Clear up and then evening activities
6. 2230 Bed
7. 0730 Campfire cooking and breakfast
8. 1000 – 1100 Campsite clearing, packing
9. 1230 Boys depart from Great Yews
10. 1430 approx Boys arrive back at BWS

For walking, boys should wear old trousers/jogging trousers, PE T-shirt or school rugby shirt and either trainers or walking boots/shoes. They should carry their waterproofs (in case of rain en route) and any new boots/shoes should have been "broken-in" well before the day of departure.

School Rules apply to all boys attending the camp; please be aware that in the event of any significant lapse in behaviour you may be asked to collect your son from the camp personally.

**Deadline for payment: Friday 24 May 2019 – The cost of the trip is £8.00**

To pay please follow the WisePay link shown below. If you have any issues accessing WisePay please email [Trips@bws.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:Trips@bws.wilts.sch.uk), Parents/Guardians who may find it difficult to meet the deadline for payment should contact the Finance Office on ext 260.

WisePay:- <https://www.wisepay.co.uk/store/generic/template.asp?ACT=nav&mID=310816>

Your son will be covered by the school's insurance during this trip; a copy of which is available on the school website. Please ensure that we have current emergency contact details and details of any medical conditions and that your son takes all necessary

medication with him on this trip. These details can now be checked through the Insight Parent Portal, otherwise please contact Mrs Sarah Hayward [sah@bws.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:sah@bws.wilts.sch.uk) to update your son's information.

If you have any queries or concerns then please do not hesitate to contact the Lower School Office.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S D Smallwood', with a stylized flourish at the end.

S D Smallwood  
Head Master