



Athersley South Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs E. Sanderson
Deputy Headteacher: Mr J. Wheelwright



13th January 2023

Ullswater / Howtown 2023 Final Letter

Dear Parents

As I am sure you are aware our Ullswater Outdoor Activity Residential is fast approaching so here is the final information letter about the visit.

The following is a list of the kinds of activity that your child could do during the week: canoeing in a boat with others, boat journey, water dip, walking, climbing, orienteering, evening walking, fire building and tunnelling through man made tunnels. We cannot confirm the activities as we only know these when we arrive. The instructors all have the necessary qualifications (information can be found on the Outward Bound Trust website). From previous experience, we have always found the members of Outward Bound staff have the children's safety as their priority. If there are any activities that you are unsure about, please speak to Mr Wheelwright or Mrs Gollick. The children will be encouraged to participate but no child will be made to undertake any adventurous activity if they do not want to, as although the week is about pushing boundaries by experiencing new things, we also want the children to have fun.

Travel Arrangements and Staffing

The travel company taking and bringing us back from Ullswater is Globe. Mr Wheelwright is the Party Leader and Mrs Gollick is the Deputy Party Leader. Both staff hold a first aid qualification.

Contact arrangements

The centre have the emergency numbers that you provided when you filled in the medical form and all teaching staff will be aware of the medical needs of all the children. Mrs Sanderson and Mrs Boreham, our business manager, also have the emergency contact details in case they need to contact you out of school hours.

As was stated at the meeting, there will be no phone calls home during the week. However, if due to an emergency you need to make contact out of school hours, please call Mrs Sanderson on 07922179721. Ullswater has a 24-hour manager in case of emergencies. We will endeavour to send a message to let school know that we have arrived and a text will be sent. Due to the poor signal, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to keep school updated daily but we will try our best.

The centre address is:

**The Outward Bound Trust
Howtown Centre
Penrith
Cumbria
CA10 2ND**

Covid Arrangements

At the request of Outward Bound, we have been asked to take masks (provided by school) for each of the children (should they be needed) as well as a number of LFD tests to administer should a child present with symptoms during the visit. Our school staff will be in charge of this process when on site.

Clothing

As I am sure you can imagine, it will be very cold in Ullswater, so please send your child with lots of warm clothes. Waterproofs, fleeces, gloves, boots and wellies will be provided by the centre. Layers are better than one big item. To save confusion, please label items. If you require another kit list, please contact school.

Cameras

Electronic devices are not allowed. School staff will endeavour to take photographs throughout the week and these will be put on the website when we return, therefore cameras are not essential. The children can take non-electronic games and books for the bus journey.

Packed Lunches

On the day of departure each child must bring with them a packed lunch. We will be eating on the coach in order to ensure that we can begin our activities as soon as possible after arrival on site. Can we please ask that this packed lunch is provided in a disposable container (a plastic bag inside their travel bag works best) and that **all** elements of the lunch be easily disposable? We must enforce the no glass and no fizzy, canned drinks policy.

Arrangements for the Day – Medication and Money

On Monday 6th February, your child should arrive in school for 8:40am with their suitcase etc. Your child should wear warm clothing that is suitable for outdoor activities, as the first activity will start shortly after arrival. You should enter the school via the main reception door and leave their suitcase in the hall with the members of staff who will be present. Putting a nametag on the suitcase would be useful.

Mr Wheelwright will oversee the collection and organisation of medication and Mrs Gollick will collect and label any spending money. In accordance with school policy, parents must sign to say that staff are able to administer medication. If you have provided medicine information on the medical form, the forms will already be filled in and we will just require you to check and sign. If your child has been prescribed medication or you wish to provide medication after the medical form was completed, you will be asked to complete and sign the appropriate form.

Children will be responsible for their own inhalers and checks will be made to ensure that they have it with them. In cases where it is necessary for medication, other than inhalers, to be on hand, the member of staff overseeing your child during the day will carry the medication. If your child requires travel sickness tablets, please make sure your child has had them on the morning of the visit as we depart at approximately 10:00 am. Please ensure they are also provided for the return journey. An administering medicines form must be filled in for travel sickness tablets.

As there is a small shop on the centre site, children may bring a maximum of £10 if you wish. This should be in a named purse or similar and handed in on arrival in the hall at school for safekeeping. You are then free to leave at this point and your child can remain in the hall with staff supervising.

Departure

We will start to make our way over to New Lodge car park at 9:40 am with a view to depart at 10:00 am. You are very welcome to wave your child off if you so wish. All children will be required to have a packed lunch on the day and it should be brought in a disposable bag so that we do not have to wash out lunchboxes when we arrive. We are expected to arrive at the centre for 1:00 pm.

Returning

We aim to depart from Ullswater at 1:00 pm on Friday 10th February and we aim to arrive back at the New Lodge car park for a time between 4:00 and 4:30pm. Please note someone **must** collect your child from school (in New Lodge car park) on this day. If we are delayed for any reason, a text will be sent out to keep you updated.

Rooms and Groupings

The children will be split into two groups during the activities, with each group having a teacher from school attached to them at all times. There will be twelve children in a group. These groups will be selected with the children's choices in mind. The sleeping arrangements will be finalised in the coming weeks. The rooms sleep 4 – 6 children and we aim to organise the rooms so that they are with at least one of their requested friends.

Food

For health and safety reasons snacks are not allowed in rooms therefore the children should not bring any with them. The centres provide an abundance of food, even for the fussiest of eaters, so your child will not go hungry.

All the staff are really looking forward to the week as we have all had such a wonderful experience in previous years, and judging by the reaction of the children, they are excited too. We also appreciate that this may be the first time that your child has been away from home so if you have any questions about the visit, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Yours sincerely

Mr Wheelwright (Party Leader) and Mrs R Gollick (Deputy Party Leader)