

THE

BUSHCRAFT

*company*

# PARENTS' GUIDE TO BUSHCRAFT RESIDENTIALS

Loved by kids. Trusted  
by teachers & parents.

# WELCOME TO A BUSHCRAFT ADVENTURE YOUR CHILD WILL NEVER FORGET!

Created over fifteen years ago, The Bushcraft Company has grown from running basic survival activities with small groups, to providing outcome-driven 1-5 day residential trips for over 40,000 students a year, at multiple locations across the UK.

Our mission is to ensure every child has the opportunity to embark on a genuine outdoor adventure to experience learning beyond the classroom that ignites curiosity, builds resilience and deepens their connection with the natural world, all whilst having fun and making memories with their friends.

## CONTENTS

Read our helpful guide on how to prepare your child for their upcoming Bushcraft school trip.

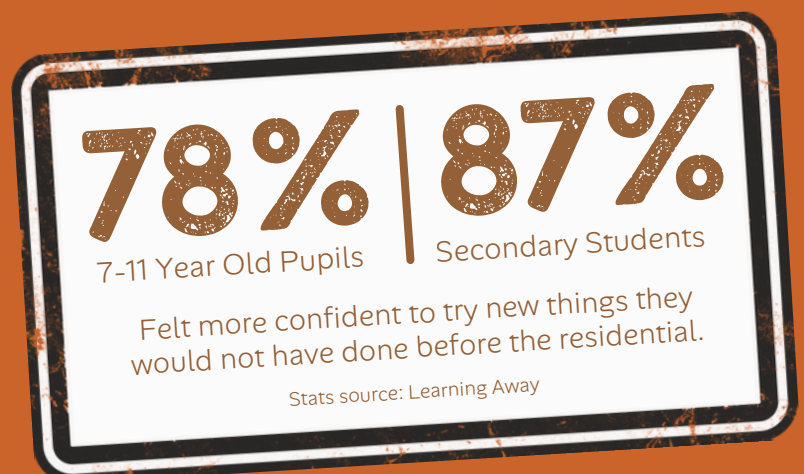
**3** Our Safeguarding & Health & Safety policies

**5** Sample Bushcraft residential itinerary

**6** Sample menus

**7** Printable Kit List

**8** FAQ's



# BUSHCRAFT ADVENTURES START WITH SAFETY

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**The safety of your child is our top priority, and we are proud to deliver the highest standards of health, safety and care. From the moment your child arrives, they'll be in safe hands.**

Our dedicated camp teams are experienced and fully trained, with a strong focus on safeguarding, supervision and wellbeing. We reduce risk to the lowest reasonable level at all times; all staff are Enhanced DBS checked and our recruitment is in line with Keeping Children Safe In Education 2025.

We also have Designated Safeguarding Leads on every site, with every staff member undergoing safeguarding training, and multiple first aid trained members on the estate, meaning a qualified first aider will always be on-duty during your child's trip.

Our team go the extra mile to offer outstanding pastoral support throughout your stay, so you can feel at ease and your child can thrive in a secure, supportive environment. In addition, we internally audit our compliance practices to ensure our processes are diligent and effective.

We ensure our practices are benchmarked wherever possible and have been externally audited as compliant to the following safety and quality management schemes:



We are proud to have been awarded the LOtC Quality Badge; a recognition of our commitment to high standards of safety and educational quality. The OEAP strongly recommends that schools choose providers who hold the LOtC Quality Badge, so you can be confident your child is travelling to an organisation you can trust.

[Health & Safety Policy >](#)

[Safeguarding Policy >](#)



“  
A fantastic residential for my daughter, she hasn't stopped talking about the amazing staff the songs they sing and all the food they ate. More kids need to do this!!  
Parent | Boughton Woods  
”



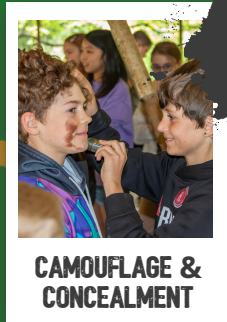
# BUSHCRAFT IN ACTION: A SAMPLE 3 DAY RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMME\*

## DAY

### 1



ARRIVAL, SAFETY BRIEF & WELCOME



CAMOUFLAGE & CONCEALMENT

LUNCH



SHELTER BUILDING

## DAY

### 2

BREAKFAST

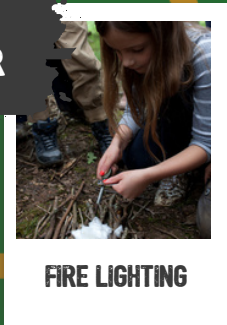


WILDERNESS FIRST AID



EVENING GAMES

DINNER



FIRE LIGHTING

LUNCH



SCENARIO SOS



CUTTING TOOLS

DINNER



WILDERNESS WALK



EVENING GAMES

LUNCH



STRIKE CAMP & DEPART



BUSHCRAFT CHALLENGE

BREAKFAST



ARCHERY

## DAY

### 3

\*Please note: this is a sample itinerary, timings and order may vary. All itineraries are subject to change.

# FRESHLY COOKED MEALS IN OUR WOODLAND KITCHENS

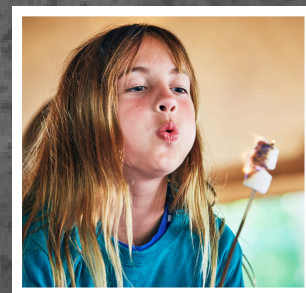
All our meals are freshly cooked in our amazing woodland kitchen by our amazing camp Chefs. They cook over open fires, gas fired hobs and wood fired ovens, so your child get an authentic Bushcraft experience.

The menu changes daily, offering a variety of exciting meals and are made up of high-quality ingredients, including farm assured meats, free range eggs and MSC approved fish.

All lunch and dinner meals are hot and we can cater for all dietary requirements, including vegan, vegetarian, halal, gluten free, lactose free and any other requirement (plus every camp is allergen aware and they do not cook with nut products). We will gather dietary requirements from your school during the booking process. Please take the time to review our dietary policy ahead of the trip.

If chosen by your school, your child can also get involved in a wilderness cookery session, including cooking their own burgers or hearty stew over a camp fire, or delicious woodfired pizzas in our pizza ovens!

Here are some examples of the menus we provide during camp.\*



## BREAKFAST

- Big cooked breakfast
- Sausage baps
- Sausage and cheese egg Muffins
- Croissants
- Cereal and fruit
- Yoghurts

## LUNCH

- Tomato pasta
- Sweet and sour beef noodles
- Pizza
- Hunter Gatherer Casserole
- Tortilla Wraps
- Baked potatoes
- Fresh baguettes with a choice of fillings
- Crisps, fruit and energy bars

## DINNER

- Burger kitchen
- Bean Chilli
- Pasta Bolognese, Chicken & sweet potato curry with clay baked naan
- Wrap bar
- Wood fired pizza and pasta bar with garlic bread and salads

## PUDDINGS & SNACKS

- S'mores
- Blueberry Muffins
- Chocolate Traybake
- Hot Chocolate
- Tunnocks Bar
- Popcorn
- Traditional Bannocks

### FOOD HYGIENE RATING

0 1 2 3 4 **5**

VERY GOOD

\*Please note: menus vary per camp and we will send your specific menu to your school ahead of arriving at the camp.

# STUDENTS BUSHCRAFT KIT LIST

Below you can find our recommended kit list for your child's upcoming Bushcraft adventure. There's no need to buy lots of brand-new or expensive gear as you may be able to borrow items from friends or relatives instead.

Please make sure your child has enough packed for a fresh change of clothes each day and keep in mind that children will be without their main luggage for a few hours while it's being transported to their private camp, so having a small day bag with essentials can be very helpful.

## DAY BACKPACK

(To carry the essentials)

- Jumper or fleece
- Waterproof jacket
- Medications (labelled with clear instructions on the application/use and dosage required)
- Reusable water bottle
- Alcohol hand gel
- Torch/head torch (with fresh batteries)
- Sun cream and sun hat (weather dependent)

## OPTIONAL ITEMS

- Whistle
- Insect repellent
- Plastic bags for dirty/wet clothing etc.
- Sleeping bag liner
- Pillow and pillowcase
- Rucksack liner

## MAIN LUGGAGE

(Transported to camp on a trailer)

- Warm sleeping bag
- Roll mat
- Tracksuit or hardwearing trousers
- T-shirts waterproof trousers
- Socks and underwear
- Pyjamas
- 2x pairs of footwear (e.g. walking boots and old trainers)
- Wash bag including toothbrush, toothpaste, soap and face wipes
- Towel(s)
- Wellington Boots (weather dependent)
- Warm hat, scarf and gloves (weather dependent)
- Thermal layers (weather dependent)

## WHAT NOT TO BRING

To help us provide a safe, enjoyable, and truly authentic Bushcraft experience, please do not pack any food, money or valuable items, including electrical devices such as phones.

The Bushcraft Company cannot take responsibility for any items lost on camp. We'll do our best to locate missing belongings, but we are not liable if they aren't found. Any items recovered after departure will be sent to Head Office and kept for 3 months.

# FAQ'S

## Preparing for your child's trip

### **How much clothing should I pack for my child?**

We encourage them to change clothes everyday, but sometimes they are too distracted by the fun. Please be prepared for your child to come home dirty – we say the grubbier they are, the more fun they have had!

### **Do you have any tips for packing my child's bag?**

We highly recommend that all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled with their name and that their belongings are in as fewer bags as possible, anything extra such as roll mats or sleeping bags also need to also be labelled with their name. Remember to check the upcoming weather when packing too as this can help guide on any weather-dependant items on the kit list. We also recommend packing your child's bag with your child so they know what they have in their bag.

### **Can my child bring their phone or smart watch?**

Our camps are all about getting back to nature and giving children a break from technology. With this in mind, we kindly request they do not bring any mobile phones or other electronic equipment including smart watches to camp. There will be no way of charging electricals out on camp and also avoids the risk of them being lost or damaged. In case of emergency all Camp Leaders have a mobile phone which they can use to contact you if needed.

### **Do I need to arrange insurance for my child?**

We have our own comprehensive public liability insurance to cover your child once they arrive on camp with us, however we highly recommend taking out a trip insurance to cover your child for any lost property, if you need to cancel the trip etc.

## Food on camp

### **Do you cater for dietary requirements?**

Yes, we cater for dietary requirements however please ensure all the information is on the dietary and medical forms you will be asked to fill in by your child's school before the trip. We know that some children are very particular about what they eat and if the meals on offer don't suit them we can provide an alternative. In the event of a student declining a particular dish, a plain alternative of pasta, rice, vegetables and/or potatoes will be offered.

# FAQ'S

## Life on camp

### **How many children are in each activity group?**

Your child's Teacher will allocate 'Tribes' of up to 17 children prior to the trip to ensure every child has quality time on the activities when on camp (and no queuing!)

### **What happens between the activities and meals?**

Don't worry, your child will be fully engaged at all times - we play woodland games, sing around the camp fire and tell camp stories to keep everyone entertained throughout their trip. It's also the perfect opportunity for them to take a break and enjoy their surroundings and be with their friends away from technology.

### **What happens if it rains, floods or high winds are forecast?**

Our camps have a large central yurt and warming campfire where activities can take place if we need to shelter from any inclement weather – most of the time, we can continue whatever the weather, as we're often shaded by the trees. In the event of weather warnings being forecast for high winds for example, we do have procedures to ensure everyone's safety including restricting activities to camp, or evacuation to a safe location if required.

### **Who is responsible for my child on the school trip?**

When on camp, we ask all students to pay attention to our Camp Activity Leaders and Teachers, and follow all rules on camp to ensure everybody's safety. Our team are responsible for students during activities but we ask Teachers to be present in case of an incident which requires their support. The Bushcraft Company provides trained instructors to lead activities. While our instructors are responsible for safety during activities, they do not take on pastoral responsibilities.

Teachers will remain in Loco Parentis and will be legally responsible for students whilst on this trip at all times. Teachers must always be present during activities, meal times, free time, and overnight stays. Teachers' responsibilities include, but are not limited to; pastoral care and wellbeing of students whilst on-site. acting as a responsible guardian for the duration of the trip, supervision (ensuring students are safe, supported, and behaving appropriately etc.).

### **What happens if my child becomes homesick?**

We evaluate any cases of home sickness on a case by case basis, but hopefully they will be having too much fun to miss home! If a child is showing signs of home sickness, it is the Teachers decision on whether to call home.

### **Where will everyone sleep?**

Students will sleep in single sex tent groups in our large safari-style bell tents, whilst school Teachers will sleep in allocated Teacher Tents. Teachers are responsible for allocating these groups. Please note that Teachers remain in Loco Parentis throughout the night and are expected to take responsibility for the children in their care should any additional support or action be required. All our bell tents are custom made, with a canvas inner and a waterproof cover, so you and your students will stay warm and dry, plus spare blankets are also available if the weather turns cold.

Two members of The Bushcraft Company team will be on duty overnight and will sleep in a central point to the tents, remaining visible and available for reassurance and support if needed. Our camp team will also help with the bedtime and morning routine.

### **Is there signal or Wi-Fi on the campsite?**

Our camps have limited signal due to their remote locations and being in the woods, meaning medical devices which require signal may not be reliable and this should be risk assessed by the school with the parents, and also notified to our team ahead of your arrival so we can accommodate the best way possible.

### **What are the sanitation facilities like on a Bushcraft Camp?**

Our camping toilets are the most hygienic and environmentally friendly toilet facilities to be used in a remote environment. Students will be given instructions on how to use the toilet at the start of the camp. There is no running water on camp, however we have jerry cans which are regularly cleaned that provide fresh water on camp to allow you and your students to wash their hands, plus sanitizer gel is always accessible. There are no showering facilities on camp unless you have chosen a 4 or 5 day residential however all necessary facilities will be available, including showers in an emergency.



“

My kids had an amazing time!! The staff were lovely and the environment sounded incredible, especially from photos!

Parent | Badminton Woods

”

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# ADVENTURE STARTS HERE!

## HAVE MORE QUESTIONS? WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

If you have any other questions about your child's upcoming trip, our team are always happy to help.

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