



Path Hill Outdoors

Parent and
Child Pack

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What to expect on your residential

The first rule at Path Hill is to have fun! Before the students even leave the coach they will be fully engaged and excited about their camp experience.

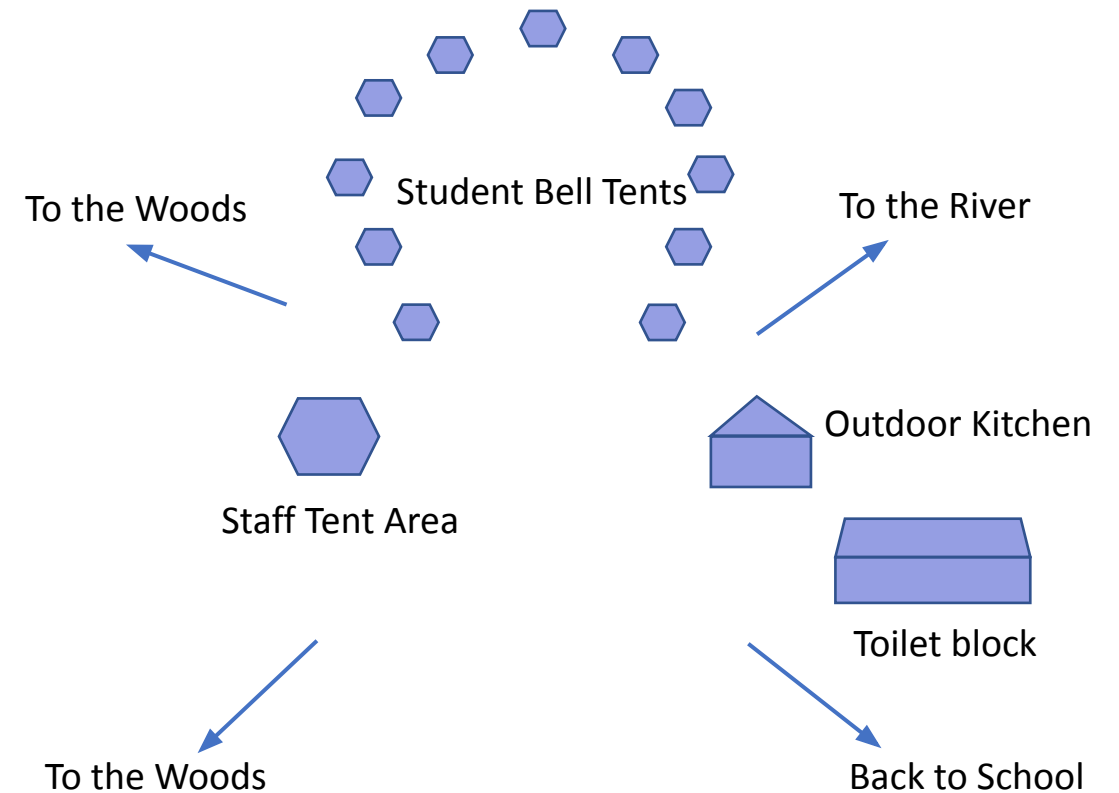
Fuelled with this excitement, the first task is to get orientated, meet the team and find their tents. We have a large field reserved specially for them and our safari style bell tents will be set up, ready to make camp.

Next it's off to the woods where over the next few days, they will play games, learn the skills of bushcraft and survival, build strong teams, make friends, and most importantly have lots of fun.

Breakfast and hot meals are no exception. Served in our outdoor kitchen, this becomes the hub of the camp, where students chat excitedly about their day and edible prizes are given out. When the washing up is done, it's on to the next exciting activity.

Night time is very special at Path Hill. Our beautiful woods are filled with wonder when the light fades. Students sit around the campfire, play games, or listen to a story acted out - with owls hooting and deer barking in the woods for effect. Then it's back to the tents for some well-earned rest before the fun starts again early in the morning.

Our site



Camp expectations

We believe in teamwork, inclusivity and sustainability. We are a back-to-basics outdoor provider, trying to work with the environment rather than against it by using compost toilets, growing our own vegetables, using solar panels, composting our food waste, and using locally sourced food when we can. To keep our site running smoothly and in an eco-friendly way, there are a few expectations we ask of you during your stay at Path Hill:

The environment:

- ✓ Respect the woodland and not dropping litter
- ✓ Using the recycling bins provided.
- ✓ Bring a reusable water bottle with your name on to reduce single use plastics.

Each other:

- ✓ Treat others the way you would want to be treated yourself.
- ✓ Supporting each other through the more difficult parts of camps.
- ✓ No phones or electrical devices, allowing you to become fully immersed in the wild.

Around meal time:

- ✓ Helping to reduce food waste by only taking the food you are going to eat. There will often be enough for seconds.
- ✓ Any unwanted food to be placed in our wormery or compost bins.
- ✓ Wash your own plate and cutlery after each meal.

Night time:

- ✓ Keeping the noise down past 10pm, to respect our neighbours.



Kit List

Below you can find a recommended kit list for our 2 and 3 day camps. It is not necessary to head out and buy all new and expensive kit. Instead, try to borrow items or buy second-hand, or check out cheaper retailers like Decathlon and Go Outdoors. As long as your child is warm and dry during the day and at night, we will make sure they are happy. Please do keep in mind that clothing and footwear can get muddy due to the nature of the activities, so please pack accordingly.

The kit list is designed for a 3 day camp. The **red writing** is the amount of that item you would need if attending a 2 day camp.

Essential Equipment:

- ☐ Small rucksack to carry day essentials
- ☐ A sleeping bag, roll mat and pillow
- ☐ Head torch and spare batteries
- ☐ Reusable drink bottle
- ☐ Wet wipes, toothbrush and toothpaste
- ☐ Medication if needed (labelled with clear instructions)
- ☐ Plastic bag for dirty/wet clothes

Essential Clothing:

- ☐ T-shirts x 5/ **x3**
- ☐ Jumpers/fleeces x 3/ **x2** (it gets chilly in the evenings)
- ☐ Socks and underwear x 4/ **x2**
- ☐ Long trousers x 2/ **x2** (no matter the weather, to protect from brambles & nettles)
- ☐ 2 pairs of footwear (wellies are handy)
- ☐ Waterproof jacket and trousers (if you have them)

Weather Dependent:

- ☐ Warm coat for the evenings
- ☐ Gloves
- ☐ Warm hat and scarf
- ☐ Sun hat
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Sun cream

If you have water activities on your itinerary:

- ☐ Towel
- ☐ Another pair of shoes or trainers you don't mind getting wet.
- ☐ Spare clothes you don't mind getting wet.
- ☐ Swimming gear



Frequently asked questions from schools

Your child's safety and comfort is highly important to us and we want to give you as much peace of mind as possible while they are in our care. Below are a list of frequently asked questions from schools and parents for you to have a look through.

Are the Path Hill instructors DBS checked?

Yes, all the staff have had an enhanced DBS check before joining the Path Hill team.

Will the camp still run if there is rain?

Yes, however we will change the activities to make sure the students stay dry and warm. Path Hill will inform the school if we have to close the centre due to high winds.

What are the toilets like?

We use drop toilets/compost toilets. Instead of a flush, you drop down a scoop of sawdust and let the earth work its magic. There are sinks with warm water outside of the toilets to wash your hands after.

What is the rule with mobile phones?

We ask students not to bring them, but if they are brought to site then they are to be given to teachers to look after until the end of camp.

Where do the students sleep?

On our private camping site in bell tents. Students and staff will need to bring their own sleeping gear.

How safe is the site?

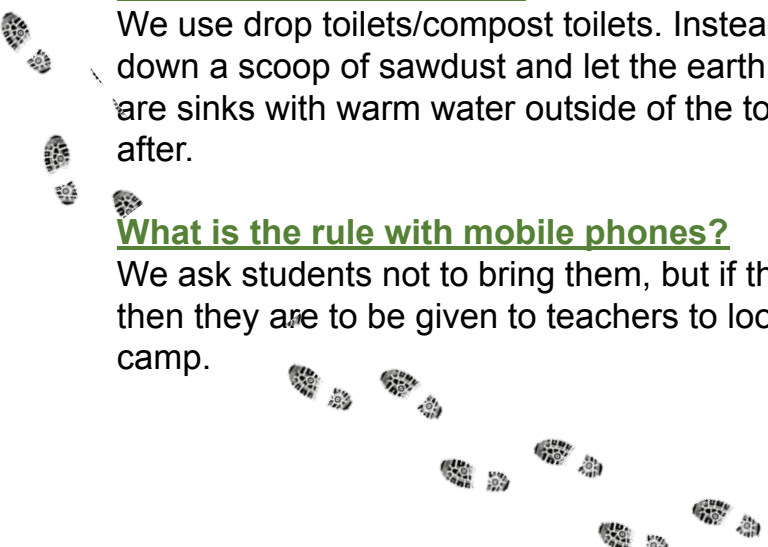
The land we work on is private. At night the gate into the camping field is closed and the school teachers sleep in tents next to the students.

Will there be a member of staff on duty during the night?

The school teachers take over at night and will sleep in tents or yurts next to the students. There will always be 2 members of the Path Hill team on site overnight during a residential camp.

What age students do you take on your camps?

We take students as young as year 3 and as old as year 13. We ask schools to keep the students in their year/age groups so we can tailor the camp to their age and ability.



Frequently asked questions from parents

Can my child share a tent with their friend?

Please arrange this with the school teachers. We ask teachers to organise tent groups and team groups pre-arrival as they already know the students.

My child has a disability. Are they are still allowed to join the camp?

We aim to be as inclusive as possible and will make adjustments to ensure that young people can access the activities. Please inform your school and Path Hill beforehand.

My child is nervous and needs to see the site before hand

We have created a video tour of the site for children who have anxieties about visiting new places. Please contact your school to view the video.

My child is really nervous. what if I need to pick them up in the evening?

It is possible to pick your child up in the evening, please arrange this with you school teachers. There are activities happening until the children go to sleep, making it rare for students to want to go home.

If I take my child home for the evening do I get a discount?

Unfortunately not, it will be one cost for the whole camp.

My child takes medication, is there a safe place or a fridge to store it in?

Yes there is a fridge and the school teacher will look after the medication throughout the camp.

My child is scared of the dark, will they be ok?

There will be lanterns to light up the camping field at night time. The students will be instructed to only leave their tents in pairs during the night and school teachers will sleep in tents next to the students. We advise every student to bring their own torch.



Other helpful information

Dietary and Medical information

- We want to cater for a wide range of dietary and medical needs and to do this, we ask parents to make sure that they have sent all the relevant dietary and medical information to the school in the time frame specified.
- We are tree nut and peanut free when running camps.
- All of our meat is sourced locally and many of the herbs, salads and vegetables are grown in our own vegetable garden.
- Students' medication will be kept with the school teachers throughout the camp and it will be their responsibility to administer it to the students.
- We ask that students do not bring snacks to camp to ensure all students with allergies and intolerances are safe during their stay. The students will be given 3 meals a day with snacks in between.

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If you have any questions that have not been answered in this pack, please contact your school trip leader directly.
We look forward to meeting you.

