

Group Leader Information Notes

Thank you for booking with us at Hollowford. We will do everything possible to assist with your arrangements. These notes are designed to assist you with your pre-trip preparations.

Hollowford Centre

The telephone number for Hollowford is 01433 620377. The office is manned between 8.30am and 4.30pm. The Overnight Duty Person is available from 7.00pm through to 8.00am the following morning.

A small shop is available in the evenings at Hollowford, selling sweets, drinks, souvenirs and postcards. We recommend that Primary School children are limited to 2/3 confectionary items per evening. Castleton village has a wide variety of gift shops.

We have a range of games available for groups to borrow. Outdoor jenga, giant chess, dominoes, draughts, footballs and rounders. Please note that all loses/damages must be paid for.

A group room will be allocated for your time at Hollowford. The room allocated depends largely on group size and availability. The Lounge at Hollowford has a karaoke machine, DVD & Video player - whilst we do have karaoke CD's and microphones available we do not have DVD's, please bring your own. The Melchett Room has a big screen with DVD and Video player.

Outdoor Activities

Hollowford can provide a full programme of Outdoor Activities for which we have an Adventure Activities Licence - No. L5867/R0510.

Insurance

Hollowford has comprehensive Public Liability and Product Liability insurance (copy enclosed).

Risk Assessments

All of the Risk Assessments for our activities and facilities can be found on our website: www.hollowford.org

What to bring:

One set of clothes to wear outdoors per activity day, **not jeans**, fleeces are ideal

Walking boots (boots can be provided if needed)

Thick Walking Socks

Waterproof top and bottoms (can be provided if needed)

Hat and gloves

Shorts

Trainers or sandals for water activities - not flip-flops

Small rucksack or sports bag

Two sets of clothes for indoors

Towel and wash kit

Indoor footwear

Sun Tan Cream

Drinking Water bottle

Group Numbers & Meals

Exact numbers are due by the date stated on the booking form and we would appreciate it if you could let us know at **least 8 weeks** prior to your arrival what the male and female split of the group is.

Please ensure that you are aware of any dietary needs (eg; Vegetarians, nut allergies etc.) and provide us with a list at **least 28 days** prior to your arrival.

Medical Details

Groups undertaking outdoor activities with us must provide medical details prior to the event if possible. Visiting staff should have these available at all times and make Hollowford aware of any details that might affect an individual during activities (eg; allergies, recent broken bones, asthma etc.)

Local attractions

If you are planning some of your own itinerary there are numerous attractions in Castleton suitable for group visits. Please contact the Castleton Tourist Information Centre, tel. 01433 620679 for further details. We can recommend a visit to a show cave, Peveril Castle, Chatsworth House or Eyam - the famous Plague village.

Castleton is now also home to Animal Farm - open daily from April - end of September and October to Christmas at weekends or by appointment, walking distance from Hollowford. Animal Farm is home to Clydesdale and Shetland horses, donkeys, several breeds of sheep, cattle, rabbits, goats and pigs. The majority of animals on the farm face extinction. All of the animals are part of an on going conservation breeding programme so it is likely that there will be baby animals throughout the year. Contact 01298 812951 for information and prices for school parties, their website is www.animal-farm.org.uk

Please talk to us about any major concerns in advance.