Your Adventure Starts Here!

A guide to your Robinwood trip







Sample Programme

Day 1 your adventure begins!	Day 2 a full day of fun!	Day 3 the last challenges...
–	Breakfast	Breakfast
–	Piranha Pool	Quest
Arrival - 10:30am	Challenge Course	Dungeon
Settle in	Giant Swing	Caving
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Crate Challenge	Zip Wire	Departure - 2:15pm
Canoeing	Climbing	
Raft Building	Trapeze	
Evening Meal	Evening Meal	
Archery	Team Challenge	
Night Line	Team Challenge	
Hot Chocolate & Review	Hot Chocolate & Review	

Times will be confirmed to visiting groups. Wake ups is around 7am and lights out (and sleep!) is at 10pm at the latest. The activity programme offered varies, to some extent, according to weather conditions.

Dobroyd Castle

Our Castle based activity centre is in Todmorden, a small town in the middle of the Pennines.

Dobroyd Castle is a 19th century mansion, standing in 17 acres of grounds and is set amongst the moors of the South Pennines overlooking Todmorden.

We have created a shallow sheltered lake next to the activity centre, which provides the ideal environment for adventurers to do Raft Building and Canoeing. It is designed so that you are always close to the bank, but it is also big enough to run challenging activity sessions, developing new skills and having plenty of fun at the same time.

Our covered sports hall provides some fantastic indoor activity areas. It houses Climbing walls and Trapeze areas, Archery ranges and Crate Challenge and in a separate building we have artificial Caving areas. We have three different themed problem solving areas; Quest, the Dungeon and Piranha Pool - our staff team love developing these areas to ensure the challenges really capture your imagination.

In the wooded areas of the grounds we have Zip Wires, Giant Swings, an Obstacle Course and Night Line.

Within our accommodation, you sleep in dormitories with between 2 and 12 beds; nearby there are toilet and washing facilities each with separate shower cubicles for privacy.

Dobroyd Castle can cater for up to 280 adventures at a time.



robinwood

we make

a really positive

DIFFERENCE

developing children

Your adventure at robinwood Activity Centres

This guide will talk you through what you and your Parents need to know before your trip to Robinwood

What To Pack For Robinwood

- [x] **1x** Robinwood survival kit (provided)
- [ ] (Waterproof cagouls, over trousers, warm fleeces and watersports footwear are all provided.)
- [ ] **3x** T-shirts (no vests please)
- [ ] **3x** Sweatshirts/Long sleeve tops
- [ ] **3x** Pairs of trousers
- [ ] **1x** Pair of shorts (knee length or longer please)
- [ ] **6x** Pairs of underwear
- [ ] **6x** Pairs of socks
- [ ] **1x** Pair of outdoor shoes/boots
- [ ] **2x** Towels
- [ ] **1x** Coat, ideally waterproof (for walking to centre)
- [ ] **1x** Summer hat
- [ ] **1x** Set of pyjamas
- [ ] **1x** Bag of toiletries
- [ ] **1x** Black bin liner

• We have a drying room and provide laundry facilities. Clothing is washed on a 30 degree cycle and tumble dried. Please don't bring anything new or expensive, or that cannot be tumble dried. (We may not always be able to do laundry from water activities on the last day).

• Due to the nature of our activities it is possible that clothes may occasionally get damaged. Clothing should be suitable for an outdoor environment. Old clothes are best.

• Outdoor shoes/boots are for the walk to centre (about 1 mile). Walking boots are great, but a sturdy pair of trainers will be fine in dry weather. (You definitely don't need to buy walking boots especially for your trip.)

• Jeans are not ideal for our activities. Tracksuit or jogging bottoms are best.

• Please ensure your clothing is labelled with your name and if possible your school name. (It really helps us return lost property)

What not to bring to Robinwood

•Please do not bring any cameras with you on your trip. (Don't worry your teachers will take lots of photos.)

•Please do not bring any valuable items such as mobile phones, tablets or expensive watches.

•Please do not bring any aerosol sprays as they can set off our fire alarm system which is highly sensitive.

•Please don't bring any food containing nuts.

Thank you.







Notes for Parents

Medical & dietary details

Medical and dietary information enables us to provide the best possible care for your child. Please give us as much relevant information as possible, particularly if your child has any special needs or requirements. If there isn't enough room on the form then please attach additional information. We can cater for most eventualities. If your child has been off sick (or in contact with someone) with an infectious sickness bug before their trip, please discuss this with the school party leader. Robinwood has a 48hr clear policy and it is important that children with potentially infectious bugs do not attend a Robinwood centre.

Robinwood Meals

The food is good and there is plenty of it! As well as toast and cereals we always provide a cooked breakfast. At lunch we typically provide wraps, sandwiches, fruits and yogurts. We provide evening meals such as pasta bolognese, pizza and curry. More hot food and drinks are available over winter time. Break time snacks are provided and additional fruit is always available. There is always a vegetarian option and we regularly cater for special diets such as coeliac disease (gluten free), lactose free, dairy free and halal. Please let us know in advance of any dietary needs. We aim to provide healthy meals that will appeal to the children in order they get the energy intake they need to fuel their three days at Robinwood

Lost Property

We make every effort to keep lost property to a minimum, including a final day check where we show all lost property to the schools. Please ensure that all clothes are labelled with ideally the schools name as well as the child's. If after returning you realise that your child has lost an item, please contact the school party leader to see if the item has been returned to school. Failing this please contact our Head Office team on 01706 814554 and we will see if we have the item in our lost property. All lost property is held for 4 weeks.

Personal Information

A personal information form needs to be completed for each child. The forms will be distributed by the school party leader. Personal information forms need to be completed and returned to school 3 weeks before the trip, so they can be posted to Robinwood. These include medical information, dietary details, allergies and any other information that is relevant. Information provided is completely confidential.

Water Activities

Children do not need to be able to swim to take part. All we ask is that they are confident in water. If you feel your child is likely to panic in water, then please indicate this on the personal information form and they will not go in the water during the water activities. (All water activities take place in very sheltered and well supervised environments).

The Activities

Our action packed trips consist of more activities over 3 days than most centres can provide in a 5 day course

Each of the activities typically lasts an hour and a quarter, this allows us to not only fit more in, but ensures you can remain focused and totally engaged through each activity. Varying from puzzle solving and adventure activities through to pure adrenaline rushes, you are guaranteed to find something you will excel at. Activities offered do vary slightly according to weather conditions and general programme planning.



Archery

Following an introduction and demonstration, children receive individual coaching for their first arrows until they have the skills needed to get arrows on target.



Canoeing

Canoeing takes place on very sheltered shallow water, with the children close to the bank at all times. The Canadian canoes used are very stable and accommodate up to 3 children in each canoe.



Caving

Specially designed indoor caving systems at all of our centres are constructed for realism and adventure, but also to introduce the activity at just right the right level.



Challenge Course

Challenge Courses typically run through wooded areas of the grounds and incorporate many different challenges for the group.



Climbing

Purpose built indoor climbing walls create the safest possible environment for young people to be introduced to climbing.



Crate Challenge

Crate Challenge is a high activity with the emphasis on teamwork. Groups are given the challenge of building a crate tower together.



Dungeon

The group need to escape from the Dungeon; a place full of cobwebs, spooky noises, skeletons and other horrors. They can only do this through excellent teamwork.



Giant Swing

Adventure and teamwork combine on the Giant Swing. Two children wearing harnesses go on the swing together, and swing through the air!



Night Line

With blindfold in place the children put one hand on the rope and then follow it wherever it goes. It goes to all sorts of interesting places!



Piranha Pool

This session involves different 'crystal maze' type challenges, going back and forth across our 'piranha pool', without falling in.



Quest

There are a series of problems for each activity group to overcome and if they can manage to do this the Quest is achieved.



Raft Building

A great activity for teamwork combined with watersports fun. We provide a range of items that could be used to make a raft, with various. design options possible



Team Challenge

In Team Challenge we get a number of activity groups together for various inter-group challenges.



Trapeze

Climb up to a platform around 5 metres above the ground, then leap off and catch a bar, which is dangling a short distance in front of you.



Zip Wire

Zip Wire is a real thrill activity, which is great for group support and encouragement, individual confidence and achievement.





Here you will find a selection of the questions we are most frequently asked by parents

• What is your safety record?
We have an excellent safety record over 25 years of operation and currently more than 45,000 visiting pupils each year. All of our activities take place in safe secure environments that are appropriate and provide a safe introduction to adventure activities for 7-11 year olds.

• What checks do you carry out on your staff?
All Robinwood staff are subject to Enhanced DBS checks (Disclosure and Barring Service) and suitable references. A DBS check is carried out periodically throughout all employees' careers.

• Do different schools mix together?
When we first opened we only took one school group at a time. Schools that attended really appreciated the exclusive use of the centre, so we continue to offer the same special attention and exclusive feel. It is likely that other schools will be present and you will see them at meal times and occasionally at break times, but the children are kept busy with little opportunity to mix. Schools are allocated dormitories for exclusive use.

• What are your staffing levels?
We feel that good levels of supervision from a high quality staff team are vitally important for the success of Robinwood courses. When centres are operating we typically have 3 instructors for every 10 children.

• Has my child arrived safely at Robinwood?
If a school does not arrive within the allocated times then our first point of call would be to contact the school and ensure that all is OK with the journey. We do not notify schools or parents of schools that have arrived on time, but many schools do contact their school office to inform them of arrival.

• What happens outside the activity times?
Children are supervised by Robinwood staff at all times throughout their stay. Children sleep in dormitories with all bedding provided and toilets close by. Shower times are built into the groups' timetable.

• What are the educational benefits?
The benefits are many and varied, with curriculum links to all of the activities. We have an additional information sheet (available to the party leader) detailing learning objectives and outcomes, to show how a Robinwod course more than satisfies the outdoor and adventurous activities requirements of the national curriculum. All centres hold the Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) quality badge.

• Can you cater for children with special needs?
We are committed, in so far as is possible, to a policy of inclusion and are keen for as many children as possible to benefit from a Robinwood course. We, however, have to acknowledge that we are not specialist providers for children with special needs or physical disabilities. We employ specialist SEN staff who will look at the needs of the individual child and will discuss options as to provision and participation with the party leader.

• Can children phone home?
The decision on whether a child can phone home lies with the party leader. It is difficult to arrange for a whole school to phone home, due to limited phones and a busy schedule. Although we recommend that children do not phone home, if there was a particular reason to call, a teacher or senior member of staff would not hesitate to contact you. We ask that the children do not bring mobile phones as they are an expensive item that could get lost or damaged.

• Any other questions or queries?
We work closely with the schools party leader and provide them with as much information about the course as possible so recommend that you contact your school for most enquires. For general information about Robinwood then please visit our website or social media outlets. www.robinwood.co.uk @ RealRobinwood on Twitter and @Robinwoodactivitycentres on Facebook.





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