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Welcome Letter

Thank you for booking a place with the Sylvan Lore holiday club. My name is David Sims and I have been a passionate promoter of outdoor learning for the last decade. I have worked in education for over twenty years, as a classroom teacher, headteacher, university lecturer and director of a small company dedicated to educating the whole child through creative curriculum design.

Sylvan Lore has been supporting young people across the North of England for four years now. Our holiday activity clubs have become a popular part of our offer. During term time, we support educational establishments and charities through outdoor learning, traditional woodcraft and adventurous activities. We help schools develop their curriculum, transform their sites and create exciting projects promoting child led conservation. We are very proud to be working in partnership with the North York Moors Trust through the 'Stepping Stones to Nature' project, designed by Sylvan Lore, impacting upon some of the most disadvantaged young people in the country.

I am really excited to welcome your child/children to the Sylvan Lore Holiday Club. We have an experienced team of Sylvan Leaders, all DBS checked and trained up in their areas of expertise. The adult to child ratio is at least 1:8 and we have a number of young leaders who work along side the adults too.

Hopefully the information in the rest of this pack will answer any questions you may have. However if you do have any queries after reading this, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



Our Mission

Sylvan Lore's mission is to reconnect young people with nature and the outdoors through the development of traditional woodland skills and knowledge. We believe feeling comfortable and at home in the outdoors increases confidence and promotes well-being.

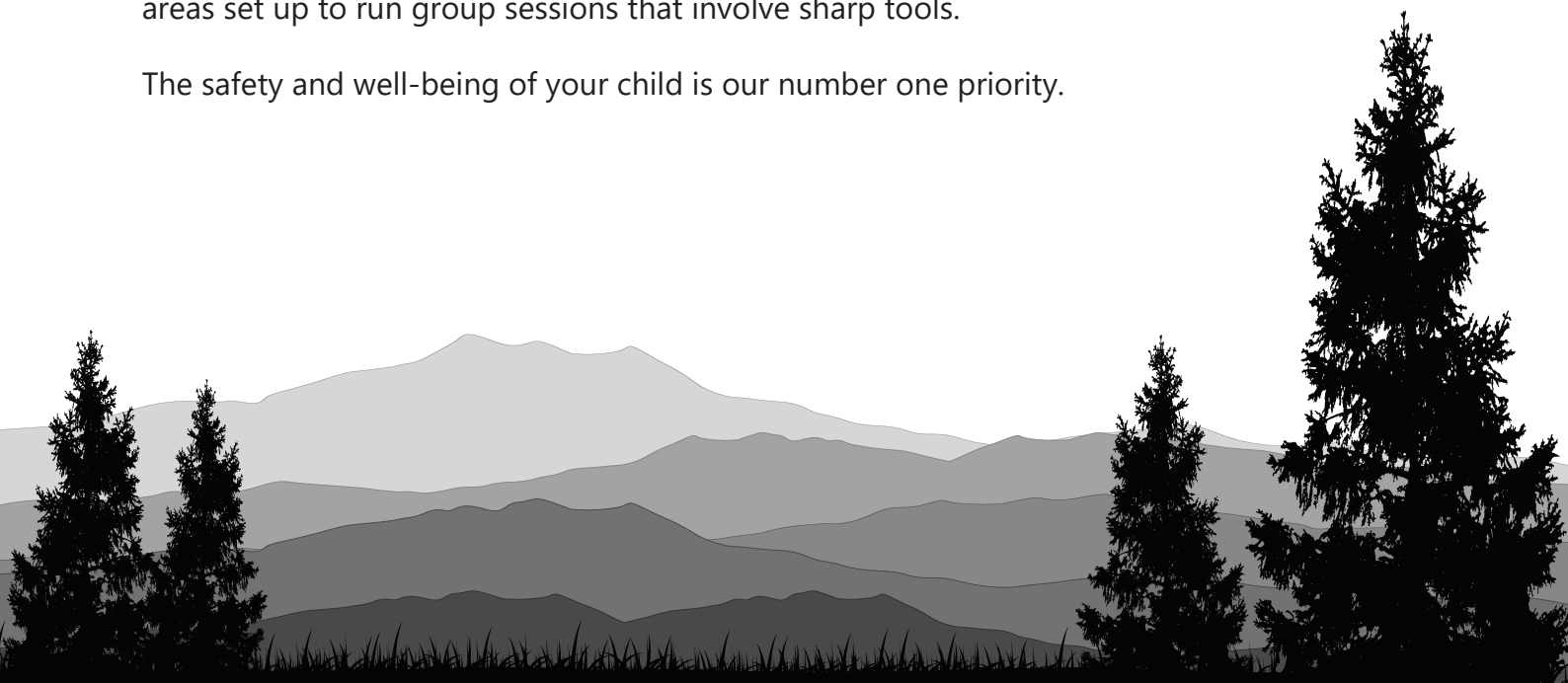
At Sylvan Lore your child will...

- Spend seven hours in the outdoors each day
- Learn how to use tools, build dens, light fires, make water safe to drink, cook food and identify trees and plants
- Work as part of a team to overcome challenges and solve problems
- Make new friends and join a club of young nature lovers with members in many other schools
- Learn how to shoot a bow during our archery sessions
- Become a custodian of the natural world
- Have fun each day and sleep well each night

The children will work in small groups, supported by an adult. The members of the team are either experienced teachers or teaching assistants, so have spent lots of time working with children (all adult helpers are DBS checked). We also have some young helpers who work alongside the adults to support group work where appropriate.

Although we support and monitor all of the children all of the time, we promote independence and try, wherever possible, to do this at a distance to avoid stifling creativity. All children will go through safety training when using tools, with specific adult supported areas set up to run group sessions that involve sharp tools.

The safety and well-being of your child is our number one priority.



Kit List

Please dress for the weather. We will be outside 100% of the time. We have shelters for extreme weather, but we will be braving the rain if we need to.

- **Packed Lunch** (see below for what food will be provided)
- **Water bottle**
- **Waterproof Jacket**
- **At least 3 Layers** (this could be a t-shirt, a long sleeved top and a hoody)
- **Long Sleeved Top**
- **Long Sleeved Trousers**
- **Cap or hat**
- **Sun block**
- **Outdoor Shoes/Old Trainers or Wellies** (nice thick socks, or more than one pair)

Layering up is the best way to keep warm. It is much better to have a base layer and a couple of t-shirts and a warm hoodie under a waterproof jacket, rather than one big puffy jacket. This is because you can remove layers and add them when needed. With a big puffy coat, you are either wearing it or not. Layers also trap in warm air, keeping you comfortable in low temperatures.

Food Provided

Each day the children will have the chance to make some camp bread over the fire to eat with soup or a simple stew. The type of soup will depend on the current flora and is only to serve as an exciting experience, rather than a full meal. A packed lunch is important in case your child is not keen on the food cooked on the fire. At the end of each day we will share a drink and s'mores around the fire.

Extra Equipment

If your child would like to bring in some of their own outdoor tools or equipment, please let me know in advance.



Pick up/Drop off

All of our clubs run from 8:30 am till 3:30 pm

There will be a member of staff waiting to greet you at each site to help with parking and to answer any questions you might have. We all like a lie-in from time to time, so if you would like to join us later than our 8:30 start time, that is absolutely fine. Please do pick up promptly. However, if you are running late, just drop us a text message to let us know.

Parking is straight forward at Brompton and Kirkby and Great Broughton. Barn House Woods is more of a challenge. The road that leads to the site is a single track and parking is limited. We have several members of staff to support the drop off and pick up. All we ask is that you try your best to drop off your child as quickly as possible. Barn House is such a beautiful site, the trickier parking is worth the effort.

Please let us know if there is going to be a different adult picking up your child than the one dropping off. The safety of your child is our number one priority. It really helps us when ticking children off on our registers



Directions

Brompton Community Primary School

Brompton Community Primary School
Station Road
Brompton
Northallerton
DL6 2RE

What Three Words

///moral.snowballs.fictional

Google pin

<https://goo.gl/maps/iSiXngWz4ph5Cg6u9>

Kirkby and Great Broughton CofE (VA) Primary School

Kirkby Lane
Great Broughton
TS9 7AL

What Three Words

///brain.tomorrow.poetry

Google pin

<https://goo.gl/maps/mAdDBrJwhH6TBYud7>

Barn House Woods

The Barn House
Great Busby
TS9 7AS

What Three Words

///tweezers.feasting.lives

Google pin

<https://goo.gl/maps/LjUt8ZdHGBW66XCh9>

