

Parents Guide – Residential Courses

FSC Juniper Hall Field Centre

A field trip can be a really enjoyable and beneficial part of your child's school career. The FSC provides opportunities for schools to work in a range of superb teaching sites, inspiring young people while ensuring courses are always well-taught and safe.



Who We Are

The Field Studies Council (FSC) is an environmental education charity dedicated to helping people of all ages to experience the environment at first hand; to discover, explore and be inspired by the natural world. Established in 1943, the FSC now welcomes over 150,000 visitors to courses in its 19 Field Centres every year. We provide residential and day fieldtrips for students of all ages primarily in geography and science subjects.



Juniper Hall Field Centre

FSC Juniper Hall was established in 1947. The oldest parts of the building date back to the late 18th century. The Field Centre has a number of buildings that contain workrooms, accommodation and lounges. The Centre is situated at the foot of the fantastic Box Hill Estate.

We can accommodate up to 130 residential visitors with additional day visitors.

A Typical Day - *This is a sample itinerary; timings and activities vary according to the course*

- 07:00 - Wake up
- 08:00 - Breakfast
- 09:15 - Introduction session & fieldwork
- 13.00 - Packed Lunch
- 13:30 - Fieldwork
- 16:00 - Break & Cake
- 16:30 - Follow up work from the fieldwork day.
- 18:00 - Dinner
- 19:00 - Follow up the data collected during the day
- 20:00 - Free time
- Bed time to be determined by visiting school
- 22:30 - Lights out / Lock up

Safety

Our vast experience has given us the opportunity to establish effective policies which are reviewed continuously by the FSC Health and Safety Committee. Our Codes of Practice exceed Government and Local Authority Guidelines.



All field sites have been carefully surveyed and fully risk assessed. All FSC Centres hold the Quality Badge by the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom, demonstrating that they consistently deliver high quality teaching and manage risk effectively. This is a national scheme providing a recognised benchmark in both learning and safety.

FSC Staff - Our education team and overnight duty staff are all DBS cleared. FSC tutors are fully trained in first aid, water safety and group management. A qualified first aider is available at the Centre at all times of the day and night and all field tutors carry dedicated first aid equipment. No untrained staff will lead school groups in the field.

Accommodation

Juniper Hall has two accommodation blocks - the Main House and the separate Cedars building. We can accommodate a maximum of 130 guests. Boys and girls are roomed in separate dormitories. We have a mixture of rooms with en-suite or shared bathroom facilities. Sheets, duvets and pillows are provided but please bring your own towel. Students are asked to make their bed on arrival and strip them on their day of departure.

- **Students** - rooms sleep between 3 -10
- **Teachers** - single or twin (depending on availability)

We have ground floor wheelchair accessible rooms. Teacher rooms are situated close to their students' rooms.

Both accommodation blocks have coded entrance locks on external doors. Each bedroom also has an individual coded lock for additional security.



Cedars accommodation block



Student Common Room

Student Facilities

- Common / games room – table football, TV & games.
- Drying room
- Loan of waterproofs & wellies (no charge)
- Large lawn
- Free Wi-Fi (with Parental Control settings) is available throughout the Centre
- Shop – souvenirs, basic toiletries, drinks and limited snacks
- Hot and cold drinks facilities are located across the Centre (no charge)

What to Bring

Essential Items

* Available to borrow from the Centre free of charge if required.

Clothing & Personal Care Items including

- Towel

For Packed Lunches From Day 2

- Lunch box & water bottle
- Thermos flask - KS4 & above only

GCSE & A-Level Only

- Lined file paper, graph paper & folder
- Clipboard
- Pencils, pens, rubber, ruler
- Calculator (essential for A Level groups)
- Rubber gloves (if cuts present on hands and water-based field work is being carried out e.g river studies)
- Field notebook and large plastic bag to cover notes in the field



Mobile Phones - Please follow your school's policy on bringing phones. *Mobile phones may not be used during teaching sessions.* The Field Centre advises students that if they bring such devices, the Centre cannot guarantee their security, and it is at the students' own risk.

Please Leave at Home - Electronic devices including speakers, jewellery, valuables and expensive/cherished clothing. FSC cannot accept liability for the loss, theft or damage of any property students bring.

Lost Property - Please label all belongings with an indelible marker. Students are responsible for their own belongings and there is a charge for returning items. Any belongings left behind will be held for a maximum of one month and will then be disposed of.

Food

At Juniper Hall, all of our food is freshly prepared with an emphasis on providing healthy and hearty meals for all of our guests. We use local, reputable suppliers who provide ingredients of the highest quality. Hot, wholesome meals are provided every evening and homemade cakes are served as an afternoon snack.



We strive to maintain the high standards of our five star food hygiene rating at all times. Our catering team pride themselves on their ability to cater for lifestyle, medical and religious diets. Please let your teacher/course organiser know of any dietary requirements, including allergies, (e.g. vegetarian, vegan, halal, gluten free) so the information can be passed on to us prior to your visit.

Special Needs

The FSC has an inclusive policy. We welcome students with special needs. Please ensure we are made aware of any specific requirements at the time of booking. We can accommodate wheelchair users.

Health

Ticks and Harvest Mites (August – October) are found in vegetation around Juniper Hall. Further information will be provided to the school and FSC Tutors will advise students on necessary precautions required.

Contact

If you need to contact your child in an emergency, please do so via their school or with the teacher who is with the group.

Where We Are

Juniper Hall Field Centre,
Old London Road,
Mickleham,
Dorking,
Surrey RH5 6DA



Transport Disclaimer

If your child goes off site to a fieldwork site they will be taken in a FSC vehicle or a private coach company. If the coach travel is booked through FSC we book with reputable local firms who have to pass our Transport Provider Checklist.

Insurance

The FSC has taken out a travel insurance policy which automatically covers UK school groups. If a student is unable to attend a course because they are ill and have a doctor's letter they may be covered by the insurance policy.

Our courses are covered by our public liability insurance. We are also covered by ABTOT.

