

Information for Teachers

Full contact details:

Kate Bankes

Copsegrove Farm

Off back lane,

Bisley,

Stroud, Glos

GL67AH

Tel: 07875921632

info@copsegrovesfarm.com

Getting here

Arrival at Farm – by coach or parental drop off

By Coach – Approach Bisley from the Stroud end, along Stroud road. Kate will be there waiting for you at the corner of Stroud Road and Bearsfield (GL67DB).

The Bear Inn will be ahead of you on the right hand side. Pull up on the left hand side of the road before the Bear Inn alongside Kate.

Kate will help children dismount from the coach, and from here will walk you in to the farm entrance, which is a short walk away.

Please advise coach drivers to use GOOGLE MAPS rather than SAT NAV when locating the drop off point.

Please also advise them to approach Bisley from the Stroud road, or they will struggle negotiating small lanes and tight corners!

Parental drop off

Kate will discuss with you prior to your trip the best location for drop off depending on the class size, and the number of parents driving.

The Bear Inn Car Park.

George street, Bisley, Stroud , Glos GL67BD

USE GOOGLE MAPS RATHER THEN SAT NAV!

Copsegrove Farm Entrance and Welcome Area

Situated on the corner of Back Lane, and the Lane that leads to Bisley Camping and Copsegrove Farm (GL67AH)

USE GOOGLE MAPS RAHER THEN SAT NAV!

From Stroud- Drive in to Bisley along the Stroud road. You will see the Bear Inn ahead of you on the right hand side. Turn right BEFORE the Bear inn in to Back lane. Continue down Back Lane for 100m or so, until the road bends very sharply to the left underneath some tall Beech trees. Follow the bend round, and then turn right immediately after this bend in to a small lane which heads to Copsegrove Farm. Stop just after you turn in to this lane and look left! You will see a gateway leading to a small grassy area, with 2 wooden sheds in it. You have arrived!

When you arrive at the farm entrance

Children will be welcomed and briefed about the facilities at the farm welcome area. There are 2 composting loos at this area. There is a small hay barn in the event of a wet start to the day.

Simple refreshments will be provided for staff, along with programmes of the day, and any other information required regarding activities being undertaken through the day.

Kate will then walk you to a completely private and secluded woodland situated in the middle of the farm, where you will then spend the rest of the day, approximately a 10/15 minute walk from the farm entrance.

The woods

A private, secluded and completely fenced woodland in the middle of the farm.

Facilities are rustic!

Base Camp with a camp fire.

There are 2 composting loos.

There are simple handwashing facilities with tubs of warm soapy water and towels for teams of children.

There is a canopy over Base Camp, which provides some shelter in the event of wet weather.

Refreshments will be provided for staff.

An emergency vehicle is kept at the top of the wood in the event of a first aid incident that needs urgent attention, or in the event of any other issue.

Health and Safety during your visit

- a) It is imperative that children who visit Copsegrove are in good health on the day of the visit due to the nature of the day itself, and the relatively remote location of the wood in which we spend the majority of the day. It would be advisable not to bring any child who is not feeling 100% in any way.
- b) Children and adults must be suitable dressed and equipped for a day out in the countryside to ensure they remain safe in all weathers.

Everyone needs:

Waterproof coat and trousers, sun hat and applied sunscreen in summer

Several warm layers during Spring and Autumn months

Sturdy sensible and comfortable footwear, or wellies with comfortable thick socks in wet weather.

Old sensible hard wearing clothes, with long sleeves and long trousers regardless of season, to minimise stings and bites.

Full water bottle

Packed lunch

Optional – gardening gloves / hard wearing gloves for den building!

- c) Prior knowledge of any allergies to wasp/bee stings is essential for all adults involved in the trip. Many teachers like to obtain prior permission to administer antihistamine cream / piriton syrup or both in the event of stings during the day, to alleviate symptoms should they arise.
- d) Hay fever sufferers during visits in the summer months would be advised to take medication prior to the visit, and bring

medication with them should they need top ups through the day. Prior permission for staff to administer this medication will need to be obtained.

First Aid

Kate Bankes has a paediatric first aid certificate, and there is a full first aid kit present at Base Camp. It would be advisable to have an additional first aider in the party from school, together with a school first aid kit.

Behaviour and Code of Conduct

On arrival in the wood, an initial session will be run in which safety rules are shared with the children, and behavioural expectations are made clear.

The emphasis is on behaviour that keeps the individual, their friends, and their adult helpers safe and happy.

We would hugely appreciate all adult helpers re-inforcing these safety rules and behavioural expectations throughout the day to help ensure a safe and happy day is enjoyed by all.

Risk assessment

A full risk assessment is provided on line which covers a general day in the woods. Additional risk assessments will be done for any specific activities should they not fall under the umbrella of this general document.

Please read through this document carefully before your visit.

In case of emergency

A document outlining the procedure to follow in the event of an emergency is available on line.

Please familiarise yourself with this document before your visit.

A copy will be available in the woods.

Adverse weather

We are keen to proceed with the trip where ever possible as long as it is safe to do so. We must reinforce the need for children to be properly dressed and equipped for the weather.

If adverse weather is forecast for your visit, that would deem the trip unsafe such as gale force winds, or torrential heavy rain, Kate will get in touch and advise that the trip be rearranged for another mutually convenient day.

If the weather is somewhat unfavourable rather than unsafe, then Kate may change the location of the visit and use a different wood that is more sheltered/ younger if necessary. Alternatively, she may modify activities / make careful choices about where in the woods children carry out activities, with their comfort and safety at the heart of all decisions and changes made.

Payment

The school will be invoiced after the trip.

Feedback

Copsegrove Farm strives to deliver the best days for children that we possibly can. In order that we can continuously improve the experiences that we offer children, we rely on your honest feedback, and would be hugely grateful if you can complete the on line evaluation form and send it back to Kate soon after your visit. Thank you!

Should you have any further queries about your trip, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Kate by e mail or mobile phone.

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We encourage pre visits to the farm if it is your first visit, and always make time for a cup of tea and a walk to the woods to show you round and ensure you are fully prepared for bringing your class to Copsegrove.

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