Arrival

Before you arrive at Westonbirt, share the arrival information with your coach driver. There are two different arrival points and your driver will need to know which one to ake you. This was included in your confirmation email.

Your driver will pull up at the coach drop-off point in the main visitor car park. Whilst your children are getting off the coach, send one of your adults down to the Welcome Building to let us know you've arrived and how many children and adults there are. Please wait with your class at the coach for the adult to return as they will have been shown where to take your group next.

You will be coming in through a side gate so that your entry happens quickly and it will give you more space away from other visitors.

Place to gather and prepare

Please walk down the middle path, straight to the central facilities area to use toilets and prepare for your activities. It's about a 5-minute walk. You may like to use the picnic tables as a base or there are plenty of large trees to shelter under at this location.

Toilets

It is important that you take one small group up to the toilets at a time. Please do not queue with your whole class as large gatherings in public, shared spaces need to be avoided for the safety of all. These central toilets are larger than those at the Welcome Building, with more cubicles open, so you will be able to use them and start your adventures more quickly. For the ladies toilets there is a maximum of seven people inside at any one time, for the men's the maximum is four.

Adults and Secondary School students will need to wear a mask whilst inside, unless they are exempt. You will be using them alongside other visitors so are likely to need to wait until some visitors come out if you want or need to take your small group in together. It may be necessary to split your group to avoid exceeding the maximum number of people.

Use these toilets during the day and before you leave.

Activities

With your confirmation email you will have received a children's leaflet. It includes some activities you can do together, and a map showing where our play features are. In the email there is also a link for some free download activities for schools. We are unable to offer our class activity backpacks at the moment.

At the moment, the walkway is one way, taking you across the valley and into Silk Wood. You are not able to exit via the walkway. Instead you'll come out on a track with a fairly steep slope. Please be mindful of other visitors whilst on the Treetop Walkway. If you stop for a while with your class, others will not be able to pass you with safe social distancing. For now, you will need to use the Treetop Walkway simply as a route into Silk Wood, with a lovely view, rather than a feature to spend a while experiencing.

First aid

We ask all schools to bring a first aid kit and first aider with them. The primary responsibility for first aid lies with you. If, however, you do need additional first aid assistance, please go to the Welcome Building, shop or restaurant and staff will notify our first aiders.

Lost people

It is a good idea to point out a location for your support adults and children to come to if they become separated from the rest of the group. If you have a lost person, please go to the Welcome Building, shop or restaurant and staff will start our lost person procedures.

Departure

At the end of your visit please use the toilets you used at the start of the day following the same guidance as before. Make your way back up to the Welcome Building and when you get there exit through the main gates. Please make sure you move through this area promptly without gathering and head straight to the coach.

Finally, dress for the weather, expect mud and enjoy your time together exploring, playing and learning. We look forward to welcoming you to Westonbirt soon.

If you have any questions about your visit, please email the learning team at

<u>learning.westonbirt@forestryengland.uk</u>