

## Xplore! Nature Holiday Club

Thank you for booking onto holiday club with Xplore! Nature.

Our fully qualified and experienced forest school leaders are ready to welcome your group to our site at Wrexham University Northop Campus, Northop, Flintshire CH7 6AA.

Please meet us in the visitor car park at the back of the campus. Coming from Northop village, enter the college/university campus through the second entrance, signposted for Wrexham University. Follow the road straight to the rear of the campus and park at the far end of the carpark near the grey fenced in hut.

### Our Site:

We're lucky enough to have access to a beautiful organic site of around 100 acres situated in the low hills of the Clwydian mountain range, our site hosts mixed organic wildflower meadows, mixed ancient woodland and coppice, plantation woodland, streams, and ponds.

Due to the nature and management of our wonderful site we have a diverse range of flora and fauna on location including but not limited to newts, toads, frogs and snakes, weasels, stoats and pole cats, shrews, voles, and mice, butterflies, moths and dragonflies, buzzards, red kites and peregrine falcons as well as native Welsh daffodils, snowdrops and bluebells, several varieties of orchid, primrose and daisies, oak trees, beech trees and birch trees and that's just a small sample of what our site holds.

Our Northop site also includes ancient monuments, including a roman road, sections of Watt's dyke, a Saxon to late medieval walled house, a 16<sup>th</sup> century flower mill, a Thomas Telford designed tunnel and even remains of a World War Two prisoner farm site, parts of which can still be found in the woodlands to this day.

We can access the Wrexham University facilities, including a large car park, hardstanding pathways, and several classrooms in case of emergency or bad weather.

### Activities:

We provide engaging and holistic sessions, and we can accommodate most additional needs, please discuss this with us in advance. Our sessions can cover a range of themes and activities, which we will discuss with the participants. We endeavour to be child-led throughout the sessions and where possible will accommodate their choices whilst ensuring the group needs and safety considerations are met. In addition to structured activities we will also allow time for exploration and quiet time. Activities include but are not limited to the following:

*Den or shelter building*

*3D mapping*

*Fairy villages*

*Fire lighting*

*Scavenger hunts*

*Bug hotels*

*Campfire cooking*

*Whittling*

*Crafting*

*Willow weaving*

*Bird boxes / bird feeders*

*Orienteering or scavenger hunts*

*Nature surveys*

*Nature artwork*



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*Fungi/ leaf/ plant  
identification*

*Leaf bowls*

*Natural sculptures*

*Nature walks*

*Pond/river dipping*

*Sit spot, art/ reading/  
meditation*

*Sensory stories*

*Drum/music circles*

*Forest Games*

*Mud play/kitchen*

*Wreath making*

*Log animal crafting*

## **Weather and Environment:**

We will endeavour to operate at all times of year and as per the forest school ethos, sessions will continue in all but the most adverse weather conditions.

We are situated at just over 180 metres altitude, close to the north Wales coast, as such we do get considerably high winds, rain and snow fall at times and this weather is a major factor in how we operate.

If due to adverse weather conditions sessions cannot go ahead, we will do our utmost to give you reasonable notice.

## **Kit list:**

To ensure a comfortable and safe experience we recommend all participants have a good level of clothing layers and good sturdy footwear.

All attendees should arrive with:

- Sturdy trainers, boots, or wellies (no sandals/ plimsoles/ your best shoes)
- Thick socks or two pairs
- Long trousers and long sleeves (to protect arms & legs from stinging insects, plants, and sunlight)
- A waterproof jacket or poncho (and trousers if available)
- A hat and sun cream (if the weather is particularly hot)
- Hats and gloves (on cold or particularly wet days)
- Hoodie or fleece (even in summer we have cold, wet and windy days)
- Plastic bags for dirty clothes and shoes
- Packed lunch
- Water and snack (we do provide hot chocolate/drinks and snack, but personal provisions are welcomed)
- Book (many children enjoy some quiet time in a den or hammock)

We will do our utmost to ensure each participant leaves with everything they brought with them. We strongly recommend that no personal technology, valuables or sentimental items are brought to sessions. We cannot accept responsibility for any items lost.

## **Behaviour:**

Xplore! Nature is committed to ensuring that standards of behaviour are high for those participating in its activities, to ensure the safety and enjoyment of our staff and other participants. Xplore! Nature wishes to create a safe environment in which everyone can engage and reach their full potential.

Expected behaviour of participants:

- a) Respect for others
- b) Respect and care for equipment and other people's property
- c) Proper regard for authority
- d) Prevent all forms of bullying
- e) Listening to instructions
- f) Participating in activities

Xplore! Nature staff will discuss the expected standard of behaviour with participants at the start of an activity / session.

Please ask to see a copy of our Behaviour Management Procedure for the consequences of failing to meet our required standards.

## **Medical forms:**

Medical forms are required for all people attending activities on our site. Forms will be sent out in advance of sessions and are required to allow our leader to prepare safe and secure activities and allow all to access the woods.

All medical release forms should be completed and returned to Xplore! Nature prior to sessions beginning and hard copies will be on hand with our qualified first aiders in case of any emergency.

Without up-to-date medical forms on hand at the session customers will be unable to attend until the forms have been signed and completed (spare forms are available for the leaders).

## **Cancellations:**

Our cancellation policy can be accessed here:

[www.xplorescience.co.uk/terms-and-conditions-for-group-bookings/](http://www.xplorescience.co.uk/terms-and-conditions-for-group-bookings/)

## **Media (photos/videos):**

Permission for publicity photos and videos to be taken for use by Xplore! Nature is covered as part of the medical consent form.

## **Contact details:**



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