Ocker Hill Academy

OCKER HILL ACADEMY

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Aim High • Aim Higher

RS

12th October 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Frank Chapman Visit 2nd – 6th November

On Tuesday 20th October 2025 5.30pm – 6.00pm you are invited to a meeting about the upcoming residential week away.

You are very welcome to come along, and should you have any worries or concerns, it may help to ease them.

Please note that only the top gate will be in use at this meeting.

I have attached a sample kit list for you to take a look at but this can be discussed in more detail at the meeting – the Frank Chapman website is also full of really useful information.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Farmer/Y6 Team
Principal

KIT LIST - FRANK CHAPMAN MAIN BUILDING

This list is based on a **4 night stay** – please adjust accordingly for the length of visit:

- Bottom sheets, pillowcase & single duvet cover. (we provide the pillows & duvets)
- Sleepwear (Warm for possible cold nights)
- Slippers
- Sweater / fleece – fairly thick x 2
- Trousers x 4
- T- shirts x 6
- Washing Kit and towel for washing
- Outdoor shoes x 1
- Wellies
- Waterproofs
- Coat x 1
- Torch with fresh batteries.
- Plastic bags x 5 for dirty clothes and footwear

Winter Kit

- Waterproof & Warm Jacket
- Warm hat
- Warm Gloves
- Scarf
- Extra socks – long for wearing with wellies
- Lip salve

Summer Kit

- A hat – preferably with a peak for protection from the sun
- Sun cream (Factor 15 or above)
- Sun glasses if you have them
- T shirts with short sleeves and not straps
- A refillable drink bottle

Top tips!

1. As an outdoor centre your child will get muddy at some point – old clothes are better than brand new ones
2. Please make sure the children are able to carry their bag upstairs to the bedrooms.
3. It's a good idea to pack together so they know what's going in the bags and where.
4. Please ensure all belongings are clearly labelled.
5. Please bring a pillowcase, single duvet cover and a bottom sheet. We provide pillows and duvets. We've found that the connection with home can help them settle in.

You can see some FAQs at sandwellresidentials.co.uk/plan-your-visit/faqs-parents-and-carers/

Frank Chapman
Outdoor Education Centre
let the adventure begin

Sandwell
Metropolitan Borough Council
Residential Education Service

GROUP LEADERS: ADDITIONAL INFO

At the centre we have:

- A range of waterproof tops and bottom in most sizes for use in very bad weather and also as protection from mud – children are encouraged to bring their own suitable warm jackets though
- A range of wellington boots in most sizes for those with unsuitable footwear for the conditions
- All the safety equipment required for activities
- Small range games equipment, however you are welcome to bring your own footballs, bats, games
- DVD's & videos for evening viewing – suitable for a range of age groups
- Facilities to launder and dry clothing in an emergency if needed
- Hair driers

Staff might choose to bring:

- Your own snacks and refreshments. We provide tea, coffee and hot chocolate for you.
- Extra games equipment for free time; bats, balls, hoops etc etc if required
- Resources and equipment for 'Leaders time' – pencils, rubbers etc if required
- Cameras for recording your visit

Common questions from children:

- **Mobile phones, etc**. Any expensive equipment is brought entirely at the owner's risk. No mobile phones – there is no very little mobile phone reception at our site. All electronic items are best left at home. We discourage cameras; it's best for you to capture the pictures at your discretion.
- **Money** – you can choose a maximum spending limit for the souvenir shop – if children choose to bring money, please ensure they bring change as we cannot always change £5/£10 notes
- **Snacks.** We will provide the children with plenty to eat, and are actively discouraging unhealthy snacks between meals. No food is allowed in the dorms.
- Clothing and effects as detailed on the kit list and clearly named. It is important parents stick to the guidelines as huge amounts are not necessary. Old clothes are recommend; the children may get muddy during the visit
- A warm waterproof coat, one pair of shoes, slippers and wellies or boots all suitable for the forest and the good old British weather!

You can see some FAQs at sandwellresidentials.co.uk/plan-your-visit/faqs-group-leaders/