



February 2011

Dear Head Teachers, Educational Visits Coordinators and Governors

Open Day at Grafham Water Centre

“Using the outdoors to develop young people”

We are very pleased to invite you and your staff team to attend an **Open Day at Grafham Water Centre, on Saturday 2nd April 2011.**

At Grafham Water Centre, we recognise the impact that high quality Outdoor Education has on every young person. Our Centre Vision – ‘Changing young people’s lives’ is at the forefront of everything that we do. We want to inspire young people to learn and achieve and make our vision a reality.

The focus of the day will be using the outdoors to help develop young people, whilst offering you opportunities to have a go at activities and to build upon your experience and confidence, before bringing along groups from your school.

Please see overleaf for more information about the Open Day programme and if you would like further details and to book a place, please contact the Centre on 01480 810521.

Best wishes

Wyn Austin & Teresa Thorp
Acting Centre Managers

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Teachers and Governors Open Day Programme

“Using the outdoors to develop young people”

Saturday 2nd April 2011

AIMS

The aim for the day is to promote the way in which Outdoor Education is delivered to meet specific outcomes during and after a school visit. Instructors delivering the sessions during the morning, will discuss with the participants the importance of goal setting at the start of a session and reviewing at the end.

Further discussions can take place about how to define the learning objectives for the visit and how to focus specific objectives to meet the needs of the group – BEST. We have very effectively used the acronym BEST (brave, encourage, safe, teamwork and trust) to help young people review how they have learnt new things and then to discuss how this can be applied to other situations.

PROGRAMME

09.30 Arrivals and tea/coffee.

09.45 Introductions.

10.00 Welcome by Teresa Thorp Curriculum & Course Manager

Teresa will present the ethos of the Centre and how the Centre's beliefs fit in to the LOfC philosophy.

10.15 Learning Outside the Classroom – How does this affect you?

Steve Morrow, School Improvement Adviser SEN, Access and Inclusion, Central Bedfordshire Council.

- Manifesto for Outdoor Learning – Objectives & how Grafham Water Centre can help the school meet these objectives.

10.45 Problem solving on a ‘Shoestring’ – What can you achieve at school?

The idea of this session is to give participants some tools & ideas to take back to school that they can use to develop Team skills.

12.45 The Way Forward - Planning a successful Residential

Esther Dickinson, Beauchamp Middle School & Jane Green, Head Teacher, Cherry Hinton Junior School.

How GWC can help you in planning your visit. The facilities we can offer the School to make their trip ‘easier’.

13.15 BBQ Lunch (weather dependant)

14.00 Depart OR a choice of activities for those who would like to stay a little longer and participate in some taster activity sessions

(These may vary dependant upon the number of participants and also the outcomes that the participants want to see demonstrated by the specific activities. It is envisaged that each participant may have the opportunity to experience 2 activities during this session).

Bushcraft, Grafham Challenge and Low Ropes, Raft Building

16.00 Depart