Adventure & Teamwork Residential

a really positive difference developing children
We have wonderful opportunities for children to achieve fantastic things. Our 3 day, 2 night residential course for the 7 - 11 year old age groups typically packs in 15 exciting activities providing the right balance by offering activities that will challenge, develop teamwork and stimulate the imagination.

We are frequently told that one of the best things for teachers at Robinwood is seeing children learning and working together in a different environment. This will often result in a few surprises, with some children who are quieter in the classroom succeeding well beyond what had been expected.

Everything we do at Robinwood is designed to make a really positive difference in the development of each child that attends. It's why we all go to work at Robinwood and why we are passionate about it.
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14. Zip Wire
15. Raft Building
How do we achieve such a positive difference in such a short space of time?

There are 6 key ways which are, to a large extent, unique to Robinwood...
THE VERY BEST STAFF
THE SAME GROUP LEADER
JUST FOR KS2
24 HOUR CARE
THE ULTIMATE TIME TABLE
FOCUSED ON YOUR PRIORITIES
a really positive DIFFERENCE developing children
The Very Best Staff

In excess of 90% of schools come back to Robinwood. The single most important factor that teachers highlight in returning is the outstanding quality of Robinwood staff teams.

Our selection process, staff training programme and the overall quality of the employment package offered to our staff team are all key factors in ensuring that Robinwood has, as we are constantly told, ‘the best staff teams’.

Robinwood staff are friendly, experienced, confident, conscientious, professional and fun. They have a warmth of personality and are sensitive to young people’s needs. The staff are able to help young people reach their full potential whilst enjoying a fantastic time away at Robinwood.

The excellent all round staff package we offer results in a huge number of applications for each appointment made, with typically more than 10 applicants to choose from for each position available.

We have a rigorous selection process to ensure we appoint the best people available. We invite shortlisted applicants to selection weekends which include interviews, individual challenges and several different teamwork tasks. We recruit staff based on the qualities we observe, looking for the qualities that we have already identified as the key ones that our very best current staff have. We look carefully at their enthusiasm levels, their support for others, communication skills, the standards they work to and how they relate to children. Qualifications are obviously important, and through our training programme we ensure that all staff hold relevant qualifications before starting work with children, but it is the qualities of each individual that we look to first when recruiting.

Successful applicants complete a 4 week induction training course before taking charge of any groups of children.

They observe an experienced group leader throughout a complete group lead and when they take charge of their first activity group they are observed by senior staff and given one to one feedback on activity sessions they run.

All new group leaders need to pass activity session assessment in a range of different activities, before they are allowed to take charge of running these sessions. We are rigorous in ensuring that all group leaders achieve the high standards required and will continue to have experienced staff alongside them until all assessments are passed.

Throughout their probationary year we observe and give feedback on all aspects of their performance as a group leader, within an ongoing staff development programme. Staff are supported throughout their Robinwood career, with further session observations and training regularly.

We invest highly in staff wages and staff development. Our centres operate year round, which means that staff are offered permanent contracts. We offer a career structure for our staff team and look for people who are committed to the aims and values of Robinwood. Other centres operate with a high proportion of seasonal staff who are taken on and laid off dependent on the bookings a centre achieves.

All appointments are subject to DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) checks and suitable references.

“Every year I am so impressed with the commitment of the whole staff team. You make children and staff so happy with the quality of your activities and your positive attitude. Thank you.”

Mauldeth Road Primary School, Withington

“Another amazing year at Robinwood. Staff and children are always so excited to go to the centre and participate in the activities. The centre staff are committed to ensure that all children are involved, challenge themselves and overall come away feeling proud of their achievements. Safety is a priority and as always the children and staff were thoroughly looked after. Thank you for creating yet more wonderful memories.”

St Peter’s Primary School, Wem
a really positive difference
developing children
We have new staff starting at each centre each year, injecting new enthusiasm and ideas, but also have a much larger core team of outstanding experienced people, many of whom have worked with us for five years or more. They set the standard for the new starters to follow and are familiar faces for the many schools who return to us year after year.

All of our Instructor Team Managers started with Robinwood as group leaders and have had various promotions through to their current positions. Our policy is to promote from within. We know that the people in our top jobs have worked to a high standard at all levels within the company. We know that they are totally committed to Robinwood and to our overriding philosophy of customer focus and customer care for the Key Stage Two groups who attend our centres.

A high proportion of our staff team have been working for Robinwood for 5 years or more, but they still have the enthusiasm they brought on the day they started, enthusiasm which is vital to the success of our course. Centre managers have on average been working for more than 10 years with Robinwood.

Training and development opportunities are made available to all staff at all times and we have developed a culture within which everyone is continually striving to improve their own performance. Our instructors hold nationally recognised qualifications where relevant qualifications exist and in many cases hold qualifications at a much higher level than is required for the sessions they deliver at Robinwood.

Our commitment to the training and development of all our staff team resulted in us achieving the “Investors in People” award in 2000, an award which we have retained ever since. In 2016 ‘Investors in People’ awarded us the Gold Standard award. For 2017 we achieved 3 star recognition as a ‘Best Company to Work For’ and also achieved 11th place in the Sunday Times top 100 Companies to work for.

The Very Best Staff

“Thought it was fantastic! Well-organised and very safe. The fact the children were always on the go was a big positive. Food was great, but it was the staff that made it special – everyone from the group leaders to the cleaners.”

Wolsingham Primary School, Wolsingham

“The 3 leaders were fantastic. Built excellent relationships instantly with the children. A result of this was the level of involvement made by all children. Staff were on hand to meet the individual needs of the children and went over and above.”

Calverley Parkside Primary, Calverley

“A thoroughly enjoyable experience – we will be returning next year. The Robinwood staff are a credit – they are always positive, help everyone to feel welcome and encourage a ‘can do it’ attitude. Thank you to the whole team!”

Temple Primary School, Cheetham

“An excellent environment to teach children about respect, team work and most of all fun! All Staff were excellent, had a great knowledge of working with children – how best to encourage them and how to make them feel good about themselves. Teachers and children had an excellent time and were very sad to leave!”

St Aidan’s Memorial Primary School, Hartlepool
a really positive
DIFFERENCE
developing children

2
The Same Group Leader

Children visiting Robinwood are put into activity groups with a Robinwood group leader in charge and an average of between 10 and 11 children in the group. The quality of Robinwood group leaders is central to the success of the courses we offer.

Group leaders are timetabled to be with their activity groups throughout their Robinwood course. This enables them to really get to know every child in their group in order to help each child progress and develop over their time at Robinwood.

Group leaders guide their group through around 15 different activity sessions including water sports sessions, themed problem solving sessions, high activities and a range of others. Group leaders get to work with children overcoming different challenges, developing different skills and developing teamwork with others.

Key Stage Two children are generally used to having a class teacher in their time at school, rather than moving round between different subject specialists each day. At other centres you may find instructors who are activity specialists and children can be led by different people for each activity session they take part in. No one has the opportunity to really get to know the children.

At Robinwood we are child centred not activity centred. Our group leaders specialise in the development of children. They are full of enthusiasm for the activities we offer and can put this across to children in a fun and engaging way, but the activities are a vehicle for the development of each individual child and for the group as a whole.

Robinwood group leaders work long hours and really hard to ensure total care for their group. As well as instructing all activity sessions, they do reviews, games and puzzles in between the activity sessions. As part of their overall care and supervision group leaders make sure that children are properly kitted out for all activities and they see that children eat well to fuel a really busy course, ensuring drinks and snacks are available whenever needed.

We do give our group leaders breaks! There is a strong team approach supporting each group leader, so on occasions (particularly at meal times) other members of the Robinwood team will step in, but after their break (suitably re-charged!) group leaders are straight back into action with their group.

Having the same group leader only really works if the quality of staff is high and that is why number one on our list is doing everything possible to ensure we have the very best staff at Robinwood.

Following on from our rigorous approach to selection and training, group leader performance is closely monitored, with on-going development for everyone in the group leader role. Group leaders are central to the success of each child’s Robinwood experience and we do all we possibly can to ensure they are the very best.

“All staff we worked with were enthusiastic and supportive. All were aware of the different needs of the children within their groups. Staff went out of their way to encourage and support everyone. I would always recommend Robinwood as an excellent adventure centre for children of this age.”

Gee Cross Holy Trinity C of E Primary School, Gee Cross

“My school has been attending Robinwood courses for a number of years usually towards the end of the season. ALL of the staff without fail are welcoming, friendly, polite, courteous, and “just can’t do enough for you.” I don’t know how you recruit them but I would love to know your secret as you have managed it year after year - thank you to you all!”

Davyhulme Primary School, Urmston
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Just For Key Stage Two

All of our activity sessions are carefully planned in such a way that 7 to 11 year olds can experience challenging adventures that are appropriate to their abilities and their stage of personal and physical development.

For example:

- Climbing sessions take place on purpose-designed walls that are no more than 9 metres in height, to provide an experience that is challenging, without being overwhelming.

- Teamwork activities are brought to life by the imaginative stories that our instructors tell, to capture the interest and enthusiasm of junior age children.

- Canoeing takes place on shallow sheltered water, with the bank always within easy reach and a qualified group leader close at hand.

All our energy is directed into offering the best possible experience for Key Stage Two groups, with courses designed to help children develop and really benefit from their time away. We select staff who are good with and want to work with this age group.

Activities take place within environments designed on a safety first basis and tailored to the needs of this age group, whilst still ensuring a good level of challenge. We employ staff who are making a definite choice to work with this age group and who have an enthusiasm and talent for working with this age group.

“Thank you again for everything. The children who came gave a fantastic presentation to their parents in assembly this morning saying how much they had enjoyed it, and also what they had learned about themselves. The letter has gone out to next year’s class already!”

Eccleston Primary School, Eccleston

“Robinwood is always welcoming to all of our children and staff. It provides the highlight of our Year 6’s school year. Many children come away feeling they have achieved more than they could believe they would and learn something new about themselves and the way they participate as team members. Thank you to all the staff who are very professional, hard-working, and clearly enjoy their job.”

St. Chad’s C of E Primary School, Uppermill

“ Robinwood is always a fantastic experience. The children gain so much in such a short space of time and learn things about themselves that they never knew. The way that they are encouraged at both an individual and group level is tremendous. The learning objectives of the visit are always met.”

Prudhoe Castle First School, Prudhoe

“Our time at Robinwood was excellent, lots of fun, lots of learning through different challenges. Children thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience and their team building skills and listening skills certainly improved. Thank you to all staff who were unbelievably positive, helpful and smiley throughout our stay.”

Feniscowles Primary School, Blackburn

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Our themed problem solving sessions, including ‘Piranha Pool’, ‘Quest’ and ‘Dungeon’ are ideal for this age group. Each of these sessions captures the imagination of the children, generating excitement and enthusiasm to solve the problems and complete the task. Teams of Robinwood staff design the problems, working within the overall theme of the session. Group leaders tell great stories to bring things to life, but at the same time are focussed on the best approach with open questioning and suitable prompts when needed to ensure that everyone gains the most they can, developing teamwork and problem solving skills in particular.

The fact that we focus exclusively on Key Stage Two, also means that there will be no secondary school groups on centre when your course takes place. We do know from schools who have previously visited other centres, that having groups of teenagers at these centres at the same time can on occasions create some issues.

Safety, Enjoyment and Learning are our priorities, in that order.

Robinwood courses are adapted for different year groups

Our courses are suitable for the whole of Key Stage Two. Although the majority of groups are years 5 and 6, we also get a significant number of year 3 and year 4 children.

For Year 3 and 4 groups, we have adapted our timetable, with some variations to activity sessions, with the possibility of earlier bedtimes and a bit more time available at different intervals throughout the course.

There is a meeting scheduled right at the start of each Robinwood course, for teachers accompanying the group to get together with their Robinwood course leader. At this meeting arrangements can be made for any little variations that will help ensure the success of your course and in particular any changes to accommodate groups of younger children.

“A big thank you to all your staff for an amazing experience for our year 6 children. We may consider booking earlier in the year in the future because we learned a lot about each individual child and it was great to see them bonding.”

St Paul’s CE Primary School, Goose Green

“A brilliant stay which did everything we wanted to in terms of developing team spirit amongst our children. Thanks for everything.”

Cottingham Croxby Primary School, Hull

“Thank you once again for another fantastic visit! Everything ran smoothly; staff and instructors were fantastic - nothing was too much trouble. The children thoroughly enjoyed it and it has set them up brilliantly for the rest of Year 6.”

Rawdon Littlemoor Primary School, Rawdon

“I have been coming to Robinwood for a long time and all I can say is it’s a fantastic place and thank you for all your hard work in ensuring the children have a safe but fun time. Every time we have returned the children are buzzing from the experience and can’t wait to pass on their experiences to the class who will be attending next.”

St Herbert’s Primary School, Chadderton
a really positive
DIFFERENCE
developing children
24 Hour Care

We have Robinwood staff timetabled to look after children throughout their stay, including staff on night duty who remain awake to supervise the children throughout the night. A member of the management team takes overall charge of activity centre operations and is available to you whenever needed.

Your course leader is your main point of contact, supervising and overseeing your whole school group, with a group leader timetabled in charge of each activity group.

Group leaders are supported by additional instructors on certain activity sessions, by additional staff at bedtime and wake-up periods, and by night duty staff overnight.

We aim to provide teachers with the opportunity to get involved at a level that suits them. Robinwood staff take charge and run activity sessions from 9.00am to 9.00pm each day. There are roles that teachers can take within activity sessions to be involved to some degree if they choose, but most teachers love the opportunity to be able to stand back and observe how children perform, how they respond to different challenges, how they work as a team and what they achieve over their time at Robinwood. We aim to take the pressure off, whilst still recognising the responsibility teachers have when taking children on a residential visit and working with each party leader to ensure a level of involvement they want.

When the group leader’s day finishes at 9.00pm, the course leader for your school will do a review of the day with all the children, whilst they have a drink and snack before bedtime.

Bedtime staff will generally have been involved with groups through the late afternoon and evening, typically assisting on activity sessions and/or assisting at meal times. Bedtime staff work alongside night duty staff from 9.00pm to 10.00pm, by which time children will be in bed with lights out settling down for sleep. Night duty staff are on duty from 9.00pm to 9.00am. All dormitories have a button that children can press if they need assistance from night duty staff for whatever reason. Pressing this button will indicate on a pager held by night duty staff which dormitory needs assistance.

As well as being available on call through the call assistance buttons, night duty staff will also patrol the dormitory corridors on a regular basis to ensure dormitories are quiet overnight, providing children and teachers with the opportunity to get some much needed sleep.

The wake-up staff team come in early to join with night duty staff supervising the children as they get up, prepare for the day and go for breakfast.

We have staff timetabled throughout, to ensure that your stay at Robinwood is as smooth and worry free as possible, but are also very keen to ensure that you have the level of involvement that you want at all times.

“Thanks very much to a very caring team of night staff who went above and beyond for individual children who struggled to settle. Their time and patience was very much appreciated.”
Ravenbank Community Primary School, Lymm

“Thanks once again Robinwood. From the moment we arrive to when we leave, we are made to feel welcome by every single person we come across at Robinwood. Night staff are friendly and cheerful whether its one in the morning or seven, catering staff are lovely and its not possible to walk past anyone on the site without being greeted with a smile and asked if everything is ok. It feels like people are proud to work for Robinwood and this is passed onto the children.”
Cavendish Primary School, West Didsbury
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The Ultimate Timetable

Since our first course in 1994 we have consulted closely with thousands of teachers and the feedback we have received tells us that a busy three day programme works best. Children have really busy days at Robinwood with activities starting at 9.00am and finishing at 9.00pm. In a 3 day course we typically pack in 15 different activity sessions, which is more than many providers manage to include in a 5 day course.

Activity sessions generally last for around an hour and a quarter, although it does depend to some extent on the activity, with extended periods generally allocated for sessions like raft building.

Keeping sessions relatively short not only allows us to fit more in but also helps to ensure that children are more focussed and engaged throughout each session than they would typically be if we spent the whole morning on one activity and the whole afternoon on another.

Over the years since Robinwood started we have run a wide range of different activity sessions including things like mountain biking, narrow boating and orienteering to mention but a few. The programme we offer now is based on feedback from thousands of teachers; we offer the activities that work the best for this age group and have been graded the best by visiting teachers.

We deliver activities that challenge children at the right level and give them the chance to achieve and develop over their time at Robinwood. We also continue to develop and improve these activity sessions wherever we can.

We are conscious of the importance of providing the right balance within the activity programme including a range of adventure activities, themed problem solving sessions, water sports sessions, activities that will challenge, activities that will develop teamwork, activities that will stimulate the imagination and activities that present fantastic learning opportunities in a way that goes beyond what can be offered in a classroom environment.

Activity sessions typically start around 1.00pm on the first day and finish at 1.00pm on the final day of your course, but times do vary a bit from centre to centre. Details can be confirmed when making and/or enquiring about a particular booking.

“Extremely smooth and well organised. Very impressed with the way every group has an appropriate amount of time with each activity and how extra members of staff are on hand to help with harnesses in order to allow more time on specific activities.”
Bretherton Endowed C of E Primary School, Bretherton

“The 3 days spent at Robinwood are brilliant. The number of activities the children get to complete is amazing – not one minute is wasted!”
Poulton-Le-Fylde Carr Head Primary School, Poulton-Le-Fylde

“All 3 members of staff had knowledge of children previously, quickly picked up on any issues with behaviour and managed them extremely positively. All had a great sense of humour that helped. All activities were appropriately planned for safety, enjoyment, learning and had appropriate equipment.”
St Mary’s C of E Primary School, Greenfield

“For a facility that has so many schools on site, it is amazing how private it feels while on activities. I was blown away by how safe everything was and how the instructors moved around with ease between activities – a great touch was how the other instructors lend a hand almost constantly.”
Sharneyford Primary School, Bacup

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The Ultimate Timetable

Our 15 outstanding Robinwood activity sessions

We have 15 high quality activity sessions. Although most are offered at all Robinwood centres, there are some which only operate at selected centres. All centres run a very similar, busy programme with typically 15 activities packed in to three days at Robinwood. There are variations in activities offered at each centre and the activity programme also varies according to the time of year.

1. Archery
2. Canoeing
3. Caving
4. Climbing
5. Crate Challenge
6. Dungeon of Doom
7. Giant Swing
8. Nightline
9. Challenge Course
10. Piranha Pool
11. Quest
12. Team Challenge
13. Trapeze
14. Zip Wire
15. Raft Building

More details on each of these activities are given on pages 54 to 68 of this brochure.

“Thank you for the best residential I have attended in 24 years of teaching. Your professionalism, organisation, instructor skills and knowledge were superb. Your care of teachers is second to none through your overnight care, meal time arrangements and excellent accommodation. The activities were original and varied which have had the students buzzing since their return. We were really impressed by the opportunity for several goes at many activities and how all pupils were involved all of the time.”

Silkstone Common Junior and Infant School, Silkstone Common

“Pupils kept busy from the moment they got up until bedtime. All activities worthwhile. Every experience is a learning opportunity from organising kitbags to sitting down for meals together”

Craigour Park, Edinburgh

“Robinwood always exceeds expectations. It really is a ten across the board from us. Every detail is thought through to ensure that the children (and staff) are well catered for and have fun enjoyment during their visit.”

St Teresa’s RC Primary School, Little Lever

“Perfect range and balance of activities, well organised. The children got so much out of the 3 days – new experiences, personal skills and had so much fun! Thank you to everyone.”

New Bewerley Community School, Leeds
a really positive difference developing children
Focussed on Your Priorities

The importance of teacher feedback in developing our courses

Ever since our first courses in 1994, feedback received from teachers has been central to the development of Robinwood. We receive report form feedback covering all aspects of our courses and use this to improve the provision that we offer.

We continuously monitor average scores in all categories as each report form is returned and if any area is not achieving the high standards that we set ourselves we get teams of staff to focus on this area and make improvements, taking into account all the feedback received.

Your feedback and your priorities

Your feedback is so important to us that we are happy to pay you for it. If you return a completed report form, you can either claim £2 per child off your next Robinwood course or a payment of £20.

When schools return to us we work really hard to respond to any feedback provided on previous courses. We know that different schools are likely to have different priorities and our approach is designed to have the flexibility to recognise and respond to different priorities, through the key staff working with each school group.

Qualities for developing specific children at Robinwood

We have identified 12 qualities which we can develop in the children through our course, with the aim of allowing you to more clearly identify particular qualities for development in your children on which you would like our group leaders to concentrate.

1. Communication 7. Patience
2. Confidence 8. Problem solving
4. Developing skills 10. Respect
5. Encouragement 11. Responsibility

The children will of course benefit from development in all of these areas throughout the course, but we would ask you to select 2 qualities on which you would like the group leader to concentrate for each activity group, rather than necessarily having the same target for the whole school. Having identified the 2 qualities to develop within the activity group as a whole, there will also be an opportunity for you to identify up to 2 further qualities for development in each child within the activity group if you wish to.

Although the main session objectives do not change, by letting us know your choices in advance our staff can prepare for your visit and will focus their praise, reviews and discussion around these qualities specifically for your groups and children. Course Leaders and Group Leaders will also tailor our provision around times of arrival, departure, evening review times and other informal periods of supervision and instruction during their stay at Robinwood.

If there are any other areas that you would like us to focus on please let us know.

“The whole Robinwood experience was fantastic – from the moment we arrived in the coach drop off to being back there 2 days later. You are very good at what you do. You made us feel like we were the only group there despite the fact that you were fully booked – this was down to the excellent group leaders and their attitudes towards staff and children.”

East Morton CofE Primary School, East Morton

“We travelled with a group of children with some very diverse needs - some medical, some emotional and behavioural and some physical. The flexibility and highly accommodating nature of the Robinwood team in planning for activities and rooming allocation ensured that these pupils were very well cared for allowing them to enjoy their experience to the full. Several members of staff who had not visited Robinwood before were incredibly surprised with the level of organisation and the 'not a minute to waste' ethos of all the staff.”

Broad Oak Primary School, East Didsbury
Highly Recommended
...Through Word Of Mouth

We really appreciate all the recommendations we get from schools who have visited Robinwood and the number of schools who come for the first time as a result of recommendations from friends and colleagues.

We have included a selection of the comments made by visiting teachers throughout this brochure and we constantly update our website, so that you can see more than 300 different quotes from schools who have visited one of our centres within the last 12 months.

Don't just take our word for it!
See what they have to say about Robinwood!

3 Star Investors In Customers Accreditation

In June 2012 we were assessed for the Investors in Customers award, based on feedback from schools who attended Robinwood in the previous 12 months. We achieved a 3 star rating and the highest score ever for a first time assessment. In April 2015 and 2017, we were assessed for the Investors in Customers award and on both occasions were awarded a gold standard rating.

The most highly recommended company ever assessed

As part of the assessment process our net promoter score was assessed. This is an internationally recognised measure of how much a company is recommended by its customers and was independently assessed for Robinwood at 94.1%*, making Robinwood the most highly recommended company ever to undergo Investors in Customers assessment.

Thank you to everyone who has recommended us to others, helping us to grow and also to improve through the feedback that you provide.

* The net promoter score is based on responses on a scale of 0 (extremely unlikely) to 10 (extremely likely) to the question ‘How likely are you to recommend the company to others’. Scores of 9 or 10 are counted as ‘promoters’, scores of 7 or 8 are counted as ‘passive’ and scores of 0 to 6 are counted as ‘detractors’. The net promoter score is the percentage of promoters less the percentage of detractors. Robinwood’s net promoter score was based on 244 responses (which could be given anonymously) within investors in customers assessment.

“Robinwood is just a fantastic overall experience the children will always remember. All staff want to go! Compared to other adventure centres Robinwood offers a far superior experience. The staff are excellent – one person with the group throughout the experience means they really understand the children’s needs. Facilities for the teaching staff are very good.”

Mersey Drive Community Primary School, Whitefield

“It was an amazing few days. We learnt so much about the children and they gained such a lot in such a short period of time. At points some were pushed out of their comfort zone but all want to return! All of the leaders were brilliant with the kids. Firm when they needed to be but very fun and encouraging to those who were frightened.”

Thackley Primary School, Thackley, Bradford
What schools in your area say about Robinwood

If you take a look on our website we have constantly updated comments from in excess of 300 schools that have recently attended a Robinwood course. The schools that attend come from areas of the Midlands, throughout the North of England and up into Scotland. A selection of comments are provided here, from schools within each of the five broad areas that Robinwood centres serve.

North West

“This was our first trip to Robinwood and we really had a good time. Well organised and the night staff is a godsend. All the food was lovely. Thanks.”
River View Community Primary School, Salford

“We book every year – it has been a regular and constant pleasure to have the residential. We will continue to book and visit for years to come.”
Leighton Academy, Crewe

“We all had a wonderful time both staff and children.”
Belthorn Academy Primary School, Belthorn

“As always, a brilliant experience. Can’t wait for next year. Both leaders were brilliant – all of the children had a fantastic time. We couldn’t ask for anything more.”
Sharneyford Primary School, Bacup

“Both our children and staff enjoyed our time at Robinwood. The staff were great, food fabulous, activities were challenging and the overall experience was brilliant.”
Withnell Fold Primary School, Withnell, Chorley

“I keep getting brochures and leaflets from other companies who offer similar based residential breaks but I just put them straight in the bin! You simply can’t beat the quality of staff, safety, food, supervision, range of activities, food, teachers lounge (and did I mention the food?) that Robinwood provides! Children loved it. Staff loved it. Thank you!”
Rolls Crescent Primary School, Hulme

“We had a fantastic time – all the group leaders are patient, kind and extremely helpful. They have a very lovely manner with the children. It was very well organised and everyone always had lots of fun!”
St Stephen’s C.E. Primary School, Blackburn
North East

“Another FANTASTIC trip! Thank you soooooo much for making the whole experience so rewarding, exciting and enjoyable. Back at school, the children are still buzzing about their time away. I can’t wait for next year!”
Preston Grange Primary School, Preston Grange

“This was the BEST visit yet! We can’t wait to come again next year!”
Consett Junior School, Consett

“An excellent year at Robinwood. As always, the experience hugely depends on the quality of your instructors – ours were excellent. They really had high spirits, rallied the children on and were a credit to the company. Highly recommended.”
Forest Hall Primary School, Forest Hall

“We all had a super time – from the minute we arrived to our leaving. Both children and adults, in our group, feel they have had a time to remember – learning new things and trying many different challenges. Thank you Robinwood.”
St Paulinus Primary School, Guisborough

“As ever, Robinwood was a fantastic experience for everyone. All of our staff immediately volunteered for a return visit! The staff were wonderful – supporting and motivating the children.”
George Washington Primary, Washington

“A once in a lifetime opportunity for most pupils.”
Northwood Primary School, Darlington

“All staff were extremely polite and helpful – lovely. The whole experience was faultless.”
St Alphonsus’ RC Primary School, Middlesbrough

“A fantastic way for pupils and staff to bond outside of the classroom. A safe yet challenging set of activities that needed great leadership, teamwork, trust, patience and determination.”
St Cuthbert’s Catholic Primary School, Kenton

Yorkshire & Humberside

“It was my first time accompanying children to Robinwood and from what previous staff had said we were in for a treat! We were certainly not disappointed! During the two and a half days I saw children blossom in confidence, taking on challenges and working with children in a way we simply can’t give the opportunity for in the classroom. Every child, no matter where their own personal starting point, has made leaps in confidence thanks to the support provided by Robinwood staff.”
Brackenhill Primary School, Bradford

“All leaders were extremely positive with the children. They clearly wanted everyone to have fun, encouraged all to try – though safety always came first. They developed a quick understanding of individuals in their team.”
Wilsden Primary School, Wilsden, Bradford
Yorkshire & Humberside

“Robinwood is a fantastic visit for the children and I would happily recommend it to other school groups. The children love it and it is wonderful to see them take on new challenges and face fears / overcome obstacles.”
Silkstone Primary School, Silkstone

“Robinwood is an amazing place to bring school children. Your staff are wonderful and activities amazing. Keep up the great work.”
Our Lady and St Brendan’s Catholic Primary School, Bradford

“All the leaders were supportive and welcoming. They quickly knew the children’s names and familiarised themselves with the children. All the activities were safe, enjoyable and challenging.”
Ashlands Primary School, Ilkley

“We found all the staff to be enthusiastic and very interested in our children – they used humour very well and were respectful to our teaching staff. They led all the activities well and achieved the right balance between safety and adventure.”
St George’s Roman Catholic Primary School, York

“Never seen anything like it, would recommend to anyone. Staff were all brilliant and had great relationships with everyone.”
St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School, Doncaster

Midlands

“All 3 group leaders created a really fun environment. Their energy and enthusiasm was infectious. Everything ran smoothly without ever feeling like a military operation. As teachers, we also felt very well looked after. Will definitely be back!”
Dovedale Primary School, Long Eaton

“In my opinion, Robinwood is by far the best residential trip provider! Both teachers and children had an amazing time and my Year 6’s are already asking if they can come back to our school when they are in Year 7 just so that they can come back to Robinwood.”
Heath Fields Primary School, Hatton

“Staff and children talk about Robinwood all year. All learning objectives achieved.”
Brookside Primary School, East Leake

“The children and staff always love their visits to Robinwood. The activities are fantastic and the staff are brilliant. Year 6 talk about Robinwood all the time.”
All Saints Junior School, Warwick
Midlands

“If it is really difficult to put into words how much all children and staff gain from the whole Robinwood experience. Every detail is looked at – there is no stone left unturned.”
St Peter’s Primary School, Wem

“A fabulous weekend, enjoyed by staff and pupils alike. Excellent opportunities for team building and communication, can’t wait for next year!”
Oakfield Primary School, Scunthorpe

“A fantastic residential experience. Children gained confidence and their social skills have improved. We cannot thank all staff enough. An amazing time! Can’t wait for next year.”
Norbriggs Primary School, Chesterfield

Scotland

“St Machan’s pupils and staff just love coming to Robinwood. We are always warmly welcomed by ALL of your staff whether they are working with us or not. The instructors are highly motivated and always keen to get the best out of each child.”
St Machan’s Primary School, Lennoxtown

“Once again we at Knowepark Primary School have nothing but praise for the content of the Robinwood course. The staff as always are so helpful, friendly, patient, polite and enthusiastic. It is an absolute pleasure working with them. I only hope that our children take example of their work ethics.”
Knowepark Primary School, Selkirk

“We have once again had an outstanding Robinwood experience. Thank you all so much. It has now become an established part of the school year and as the younger children move up through school, their anticipation of the chance to go to Robinwood in P6 and 7 is clear to see. Looking forward to next year already!”
Miller Primary School, Glasgow

“10/10 for all aspects of every activity. A good variety of activities to appeal to every type of child. Many felt safe, enough to have a go at something they had previously thought they weren’t going to even attempt. School staff were at ease during the sessions because of the knowledge and expertise of centre staff.”
Overtown Primary School, Wishaw

“Our 3 days at Robinwood were outstanding. The children were challenged and had lots of fun throughout our visit.”
Low Port Primary School, Linlithgow

“Both our group leaders were superb from the get go. Very motivational for both pupils and staff. Cannot fault them in any way. An excellent time had by all from Tweedbank. Great activities, superb staff, lovely centre and met all our expectations. Cannot wait to return next year.”
Tweedbank Primary School, Galashiels
Robinwood Courses...
...Throughout the Year

The greatest demand is generally for courses in May, June, July and September but we operate very successful courses at other times of year, from early January to mid December. We offer 3 day courses as described in this brochure, but adapt these in different ways according to the time of year and the weather conditions. We have developed our facilities to be able to operate high quality activity courses in virtually all weather conditions.

Courses in the Autumn term provide a great opportunity to develop team work for groups of children in a different environment at the start of the school year.

The schools that regularly attend these courses tell us of how they reap the benefits of the Robinwood experience, throughout the rest of the school year. Teachers have the opportunity to stand back and see the way that children respond and develop throughout their stay, whilst the children are instructed by their group leader and other Robinwood staff.

In the late Autumn as the nights draw in we still operate a full activity programme. We have floodlighting in many activity areas so that these activities can continue in the late afternoon and evening. We also have many indoor facilities, available for use.

Robinwood courses run through December, January and February and although the weather can be lovely, these courses generally provide the most challenging weather conditions we experience. We are able to adapt our programme in a variety of ways according to the needs of the group and the weather conditions experienced. Courses at this time of year see the biggest benefit from the extensive indoor provision at each centre. Many outdoor activities also have areas under shelter.

We can either adapt water sports sessions or schedule an alternative activity. Open canoeing can take place with the canoes rafted up together, which is still a fun session but means that we are virtually certain that children won’t fall in. Raft Building is replaced with an alternative indoor session.

“It was good to see the investment (both time and money) in maintaining and developing the centre. All staff seem genuinely happy in their work and that contributes to an overall great atmosphere across the centre. Thank you for another great trip.”

Viewley Hill Academy, Middlesbrough

“We have had a thoroughly enjoyable visit as always. The staff absolutely make the trip. The way they all interact and encourage the children to test their limits is exceptional. I recognise there have been some changes to activities this year and they have made a positive difference. I look forward to our visit next year.”

Langley First School, Whitley Bay

“Another brilliant visit to Robinwood. Everything is first class! From the activities, to the staff, to the catering – super! We will be back again with a new set of Year 4’s in November – can’t wait!”

Broadway East First School, Gosforth

“I have been coming to Robinwood for many years now and it gets better and better year on year as small improvements are made.”

Amble Links First School, Morpeth
a really positive DIFFERENCE developing children
Robinwood Courses
Throughout the Year

Price variations throughout the year

Many schools, when they make their initial enquiry for a course at Robinwood, want to bring their year 6 after SATS. We can understand why and we do have a great course for year 6 groups to experience, just before they move on to secondary school, but these are generally the most expensive courses with Wednesday to Friday course prices up to £265 per child in June 2018. The same high quality courses are available on a selection of dates, including weekday term time dates for under £170 per child.

Getting kitted out for poor weather conditions

Robinwood group leaders take care to ensure that children are always correctly kitted out for the weather conditions. Although we will give the children a level of responsibility to prepare for each activity themselves, we always get the group together before they start a session to ensure they are properly kitted out. We check the number of layers worn and the thickness of layers worn and ensure children have suitable waterproof and windproof outer layers. As long as the children are properly dressed for the conditions, they can have a great time and it is often more of a real outdoor adventure if the weather is challenging.

Robinwood provides a lot of extra clothing available for all children to supplement the clothing each child brings themselves. We supply hard wearing waterproof capes and waterproof over-trousers; we also supply thick fleece tops, extra wellies, fleece mittens and a variety of other warm kit for use as needed. Although activities can successfully take place as described in poor weather conditions, if the weather is ‘severe’ we always err on the side of caution and offer alternatives inside.

Indoor & Outdoor Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archery</td>
<td>Indoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canoeing</td>
<td>Outdoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caving</td>
<td>Indoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Challenge Course</td>
<td>Outdoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climbing</td>
<td>Indoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crate Challenge</td>
<td>Indoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dungeon</td>
<td>Indoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giant Swing</td>
<td>Outdoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nightline</td>
<td>Outdoor with Shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piranha Pool</td>
<td>Indoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quest</td>
<td>Outdoor with Shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Challenge</td>
<td>Indoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trapeze</td>
<td>Indoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zip Wire</td>
<td>Outdoor with Shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raft Building*</td>
<td>Outdoor “Runs April – October”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Robinwood provides a lot of extra clothing available for all children to supplement the clothing each child brings themselves. We supply hard wearing waterproof capes and waterproof over-trousers; we also supply thick fleece tops, extra wellies, fleece mittens and a variety of other warm kit for use as needed. Although activities can successfully take place as described in poor weather conditions, if the weather is ‘severe’ we always err on the side of caution and offer alternatives inside.

"The whole experience was excellent. Despite the snow and sleet all activities were enjoyed by children and staff! See you next year!"

The Village Primary, Stockton-On-Tees

"Having a cupboard for each group with kit bags is a great idea as well as all the equipment and clothing (waterproofs etc) available is FABULOUS! For our parents where price is everything it really helps to know that all this is included!"

Hensingham Primary School, Whitehaven

"Yet another brilliant year had by pupils and staff. Robinwood staff were as always so engaging and encouraging, great to see how the Todmorden site has developed and again been improved."

Churchtown Primary School, Southport
Dobroyd Castle...
Dobroyd Castle, Todmorden, Lancashire

Dobroyd Castle is set high up on the Todmorden moors enjoying some fantastic views of the surrounding area. It is a historic, grade two star listed building, with wonderful architecture including a breathtaking main entrance hall. The 17 acres of grounds, which accommodate Robinwood adventure and teamwork activities, are also the home for a wide range of wildlife including deer, rabbits and many more. The castle has had many different lives; starting out as a very grand house for a famous local mill owner, later it became an approved school for boys and just before Robinwood took over, a Buddhist Centre. We have invested lots of time and money creating the on site activities, all linked together with paths. We have a shallow lake on site which is ideal for an introduction to canoeing and raft building. We also have giant swings and zip wires which are around 80 metres long. Everything is close by so there is no time wasted between activities.

Our converted sports hall provides some fantastic indoor activity areas. It houses climbing walls and indoor trapeze areas, within which children are challenged to leap from a small platform at the top of a wooden pole just over 4 metres high. We also have air conditioned indoor archery ranges and rooms in which crate challenge takes place.

“Excellent I cannot fault organisation and value for money. This was my fourth visit to Robinwood and the centre at Dobroyd Castle gets better each year. Once again, a fun fuelled, superbly tailored three days for our schools which could not have been bettered. Well done Robinwood Team – excellence of programme second to none.”

Burley and Woodhead C of E Primary School, Burley in Wharfedale

“This was our third visit to Dobroyd Castle and once again it was a fantastic weekend. The children and staff enjoyed every moment. Thank you.”

St Mary’s Roman Catholic Primary School, Stockport

**Typical travel times**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time (mins)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manchester</td>
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<td>Leeds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheffield</td>
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<td>York</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hull</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nottingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lincoln</td>
<td>2 hrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>2 hr 20 mins</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
We have three different themed problem solving areas; Quest, the Dungeon and Piranha Pool. Our staff team love developing these areas to ensure the challenges involved really capture the imagination of the children taking part.

We're always looking to develop and improve the activity programme we offer, sharing ideas across the company and drawing on the experience gained at three centres.

We have dormitories and teachers accommodation areas in the main castle building and in three separate accommodation blocks next to the main castle. The children get to share a dormitory with their friends, whilst teachers rooms, all of which are en-suite, are located close to the children.

We have two very nice teachers’ lounge areas in larger rooms just off the grand castle entrance hall, where teachers can relax in the evenings, whilst Robinwood staff oversee bedtimes and overnight supervision of the children.

“...every opportunity is used to teach and stretch children and adults to their potential.”

Preston Primary School, Preston, Hull
Barhaugh Hall...
Barhaugh Hall, Alston, Cumbria

Barhaugh Hall is set in over 9 acres of land and lies on the Cumbria/Northumbria border. For those wishing to have a wonderful experience in a really beautiful part of the countryside, Barhaugh Hall will certainly not disappoint. The views over the valley are breath taking whatever the weather and the wildlife living in the area such as deer and famous red squirrels are a joy to see and can sometimes be spotted on the walk into the centre or within the centre grounds.

Once at the centre all activities are on site and have been adapted and developed over the years to provide a fun and challenging experience for everyone. The close proximity of every session means there is no time wasted and children are constantly kept busy and entertained on one of our many exciting sessions.

Accommodation at the centre is set in a magnificent 18th century building. The children get to share a dormitory with their friends whilst the teachers get their very own en-suite rooms to relax in at night. The most unusual but wonderful room is placed at the top of the folly tower for those teachers wishing for a fairytale stay.

**Typical travel times**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carlisle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penrith</td>
<td>50 mins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newcastle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Durham</td>
<td>1 hr 35 mins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middlesbrough</td>
<td>1 hr 50 mins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leeds</td>
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<td>York</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glasgow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liverpool</td>
<td>2 hr 40 mins</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

“*We were extremely impressed with the smooth running and organisation from start to finish. Nothing was any bother for any staff who all went above and beyond what could be expected.*”

Shotton Primary School, Shotton Colliery

“*Very happy, as always with all of the activities. Been here 7 times now and it’s always good to see some changes each year.*”

High Spen Primary School, High Spen

“*The centre is extraordinarily well organised!! This sets the whole visit up well, allowing children to grow and develop teamwork, independant skills and overcome fears. The staff are outstanding and make all the children feel at ease.*”

Frederick Nattrass Primary Academy, Norton
We have fantastic indoor provision for three challenging high activities; an impressive climbing wall, crate challenge with emphasis on teamwork and trapeze with platform options to leap from two different levels. Indoor provision means that these high activities can continue whatever the weather.

There are further indoor areas in the grounds for the Dungeon, Quest and our legendary Piranha Pool; wonderful themed problem solving areas developed by our staff team.

The indoor provision will probably be most important for the many schools who attend Barhaugh Hall from November through to March each year, but there remains plenty of opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities in the beautiful setting of the grounds surrounding Barhaugh Hall activity centre.

Children visiting the centre will not only get to experience new and exciting challenges but will have the opportunity to grow in confidence and discover new skills and abilities whilst being lead and guided all the way by our fun and highly motivated staff team.

Typical three day programme at Dobroyd Castle

Day 1
- Arrivals are typically about 11.00am
- Moorland challenge
- Lunch
- Quest
- Canoeing
- Challenge Course
- Evening meal
- Archery
- Nightline
- Hot chocolate and review

Day 2
- Breakfast
- Piranha pool
- Crate challenge
- Giant swing
- Lunch
- Zip wire
- Dungeon
- Climbing
- Evening meal
- Team challenge
- Hot chocolate and review

Day 3
- Breakfast
- Trapeze
- Raft building
- Caving
- Lunch
- Departures are typically about 2.30pm

Around 24 hours of high quality activity sessions packed into a 3 day course. We ensure your group gains the most possible from every moment spent at Robinwood, from wake-up around 7.00am to lights out (and sleep!) at 10.00pm. Please note that this activity programme does vary dependent in particular on weather conditions and the timetable given above is only a sample. The activity programme you follow will be confirmed in advance of your course, within a personalised timetable for your school.
The Old School...
The Old School, Todmorden, Lancashire

The Old School Centre is where it all started in 1994, running courses for no more than 25 children. Set in the South Pennines town of Todmorden, with brilliant transport links, fascinating local history and amazing natural resources.

One of the highlights of a visit to The Old School is a trip up to Orchan Rocks; a pile of natural boulders that is perfect for children to challenge themselves by seeing which of the small holes they can wriggle through.

The Old School Centre, although now able to accommodate 75 children, is the smallest of the three Robinwood Centres, but still has all the activities the children want and more.

From the minute they arrive to the minute they leave the children are made to feel that the centre and its staff team are all there for them. There’s no bigger smile than that on a child when they have climbed to the top of the climbing wall when their initial thoughts were ‘no way!’ The message for the children throughout their stay is that they can achieve. With the help and support of their friends and the Robinwood team, they all do and we do our utmost to highlight all the individual achievements.

“We all really enjoyed our time and we were made very welcome by all of the centre. All the children came back ‘buzzing’ about the time they spent doing all the different activities. It was great to see the children working together to complete tasks, thank you for everything.”

Bowmandale Primary School, Barton-on-Humber

“As always, we had a wonderful time. The staff go out of their way to cater for all sorts of situations and characters. The children talk about Robinwood for years!”

Roe Lee Park Primary School, Blackburn

“Another great stay. Really enjoyed by all. It’s difficult to find areas that need improvement. Thanks again.”

Tarvin Primary School, Tarvin

Typical travel times

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<tr>
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<td>2 hrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>2 hr 20 mins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Old School has outstanding indoor provision for challenging high activities such as Trapeze, Crate Challenge and Climbing. We have also brought the archery range inside, so that this session can be enjoyed in the warmth and undercover whatever the weather.

At The Old School centre we generally spend a little bit longer on the sessions up on the moors, experiencing the real outdoors, with activities like challenge course, and our new activity Alien Conspiracy. Alien Conspiracy is a themed problem solving session which takes place on the moors of Todmorden. The children will be guided by instructions from a tablet computer and use a GPS to find certain sites. This session looks to develop teamwork and problem solving skills, whilst capturing the imagination of the children through the challenges involved and the story telling of the group leaders.

The teachers are well looked after too at The Old School, with en-suite rooms located close to the children and a lounge area where teachers can relax in the evening, whilst Robinwood staff supervise the children. We also provide some additional treats to help make your stay comfortable. Our welcoming support staff ensure that children and teachers are comfortable and well fed and any particular needs are easily catered for.

Typical three day programme at Dobroyd Castle

Day 1
- Arrivals are typically about 11.00am
- Lunch
- Alien conspiracy
- Caving
- Evening meal
- Piranha pool
- Climbing
- Hot chocolate and review

Day 2
- Breakfast
- Challenge course
- Crate challenge
- Lunch
- Dungeon of Doom
- Nightline
- Evening meal
- Team challenge
- Hot chocolate and review

Day 3
- Breakfast
- Trapeze
- Archery
- Climbing
- Lunch
- Departures are typically about 2.30pm

“Everyone had an amazing time during our stay! All children were able to feel success at something. They have strengthened their relationships with their peers and appear more confident.”

St Mary’s RC Primary School, Littleborough

“Excellent organisation, many super activities and brilliant staff. We can’t thank you enough! It is the best outdoor pursuits company I’ve ever had the privilege of taking children to. Thank you.”

Ravenbank Community Primary School, Lymm

“Overall, we were extremely pleased with the staff, food and activities at the Old School. Children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and so did the staff.”

Bowker Vale Primary School, Higher Crumpsall

Around 24 hours of high quality activity sessions packed into a 3 day course. We ensure your group gains the most possible from every moment spent at Robinwood, from wake-up around 7.00am to lights out (and sleep!) at 10.00pm. Please note that this activity programme does vary dependent in particular on weather conditions and the timetable given above is only a sample. The activity programme you follow will be confirmed in advance of your course, within a personalised timetable for your school.
Cross Lanes...
Cross Lanes, Marchwiel, Wrexham

Cross Lanes activity centre is our newest centre and is set in the beautiful Welsh countryside based just outside of Wrexham.

Cross Lanes dates back to the late Victorian era when it was built as a private house in around 1870. It's name in welsh was Maes-y-Nant which when translated means 'house by a stream'. In 1959 Cross Lanes was sold and converted to a hotel with many of its original features being preserved to this day.

Once at the centre all activities are on site and have been developed following extensive feedback and experience from running these activities across our existing 3 centres. The close proximity of every session means there is no time wasted and children are constantly kept busy and entertained on one of our many exciting sessions. We have created a shallow sheltered lake next to the activity centre, which provides the ideal environment for adventurers to do Raft Building and Canoeing. It is designed so that you are always close to the bank, but is big enough to run challenging activity sessions, developing new skills and having plenty of fun at the same time. We also have a Giant Swing and Zip wire which is around 80 meters in length. Everything is on site and close by so there is no time wasted between activities.

"As usual the children had a fantastic time and have benefitted from the experience. They are much more confident, self assured and have bonded as a team. All staff from group leaders to kitchen staff and cleaners were friendly, enthusiastic and wanted to help. The children are desperate to come again. Staff also had a super experience and are already looking forward to next year."

Thorners CE Primary School, Thorners

"Once again we were blown away by the confidence and enjoyment that the instructors were able to bring to the children. A big thank you from all from our staff. We are already looking forward to next years visit."

St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School, Castleford

"A fantastic experience for both children and adults. Amazing staff and brilliant facilities. Our children had so many different opportunities to challenge themselves, face their fears and succeed. They loved every minute!"

St Michael's Roman Catholic Primary School, Durham

Accommodates up to 170 children

Typical travel times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chester</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liverpool</td>
<td>1 hr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stoke on Trent</td>
<td>1 hr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manchester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birmingham</td>
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<td>Derby</td>
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<td>Leeds</td>
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<td>Nottingham</td>
<td>2 hr 10 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
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</tbody>
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Telephone: 01706 814554  www.robinwood.co.uk
Our purpose built high activities building houses a Climbing Wall, Trapeze area and Crate Challenge Room. We have a purpose built high wires challenge course and three different themed problem solving areas; Quest, The Dungeon and Piranha Pool – our staff team love developing these areas to ensure the challenges really capture your imagination when taking part. We also have an indoor Archery range and custom built caving area.

We are always looking to develop and improve the activity programme we offer, sharing ideas across the company and drawing on the experience gained across the four centres.

We have dormitories and teachers accommodation all housed in the main building. Within our accommodation, you sleep in dormitories with between 2-12 children. Cross Lanes accommodation can cater for up to 170 adventurers at a time. The children get to share a dormitory with their friends, whilst teachers rooms, all of which are en-suite, are located close to the children.

We have a fantastic teachers lounge area where teachers can relax on the evenings, whilst Robinwood staff oversee bedtimes and overnight supervision of the children.

*“Outstanding organisation. Another really enjoyable and memorable time spent at Robinwood - it is always so pleasing to see how the centre continues to improve each year and continues to be focused on safety, learning and fun. The children have not stopped talking about and won’t do for a long long time to come. Thank you once again.”*  
**Twelve Apostles Catholic Primary School, Leigh**

*“The children thoroughly enjoyed their activities during their time and repeatedly talk about it even now. They came back mature and proud of what they had achieved - this was only possible due to the caring and supportive staff at Robinwood who made it a priority to bond with the children and make sure they felt safe and secure even when they were out of their comfort zone.”*  
**Cravenwood Primary Academy, Crumpsall**

*I just want to say a huge thank you to everyone at Robinwood for making our stay so enjoyable. The children loved all the activities and have written about them on our school blog. From my perspective, I thoroughly enjoyed myself and felt like I could enjoy spending time with my children knowing they were safe, happy and well cared for. See you again next year.”*  
**Highfield Primary School, Bolton**

## Typical three day programme at Cross Lanes

### Day 1
- Arrivals are typically about 11.00am
- Lunch
- Giant swing
- Raft building
- Crate challenge
- Evening meal
- Trapeze
- Quest
- Hot chocolate and review

### Day 2
- Breakfast
- Zip wire
- Canoeing
- Archery
- Lunch
- Nightline
- Piranha Pool
- Caving
- Evening meal
- Team challenge
- Hot chocolate and review

### Day 3
- Breakfast
- Dungeon
- Climbing
- Challenge course
- Lunch
- Departures are typically about 2.30pm

Around 24 hours of high quality activity sessions packed into a 3 day course. We ensure your group gains the most possible from every moment spent at Robinwood, from wake-up around 7.00am to lights out (and sleep!) at 10.00pm. Please note that this activity programme does vary dependent in particular on weather conditions and the timetable given above is only a sample. The activity programme you follow will be confirmed in advance of your course, within a personalised timetable for your school.
Activities
robin wood

We make

a really positive
DIFFERENCE
developing children

Telephone: 01706 814554

www.robinwood.co.uk
1. Archery

Following an introduction and demonstration from their group leader, children receive individual coaching for their first arrows, until we are confident they have the skills needed to get arrows on target. Children use bows appropriate to their size and strength and everyone taking part in archery sessions must always follow the strict safety rules for the archery range.

We take care to ensure that, after initial coaching, a good pace to the session is maintained ensuring the children get to shoot plenty of arrows. As the session develops, the skills learnt through expert coaching are put to use in tournaments and fun based archery challenges.

* Archery at Barhaugh Hall is not totally indoors. Although it is in a wooden building with the whole of the shooting and waiting area under shelter, it has an archery netting roof for a good length of the range.

"Pupils enjoyed learning the technical skills of this activity."

Delph Primary School, Oldham

"This was lots of children’s favourite activity."

Sunnybrow Primary School, Durham
2. Canoeing

Canoeing takes place on very sheltered shallow water, with the children close to the bank at all times. The Canadian canoes used are very stable and accommodate up to 3 children in each canoe. A suitably qualified group leader will take charge of the group, assisting with individual coaching tips throughout. In the second half of the session we normally run canoe games, which enable children to practice their skills whilst also having great fun. Buoyancy aids, canoe helmets and other clothing appropriate to weather conditions are worn throughout which can include waterproofs, thick fleeces and wellies. All of which can be borrowed from the centre free of charge.

“Fun and enjoyable. Promoted water safety, teamwork and listening skills.”
Northfold Community Primary School, Lancashire

“Great team work activity and lots of fun and games were used to engage the children who had a great time.”
St Wilfrid’s Primary School, Lancashire
3. Caving

We have specially designed indoor caving systems at all of our centres. They are constructed for realism and adventure, but also to introduce the activity at a level that is just right for the 7 to 11 year old age group. The tunnel system has emergency exits at frequent intervals and emergency lighting, which can also be used to guide them through the tunnel network. The children all wear caving helmets throughout the session. As with many of our activities the instructors use lots of creativity to capture the imagination of the group, with cave exploration and rescue themes included, for the later part of caving sessions.

“Fantastic how the real experience of caving was recreated and made challenging and realistic. Children enjoyed the activities and learning about caving.”
Northfold Community Primary School, Lancashire

“All of the children absolutely loved caving this year!”
Gosforth East Middle School, Gosforth
4. Climbing

We have purpose built indoor climbing walls at our activity centres, creating the safest possible environment for young people to be introduced to climbing. These sessions offer children a chance to challenge themselves on an individual level and to support each other as part of a team. Children have 2 safety lines attached to them as they are climbing, doubling the safety provision. One rope is attached to an auto-belay and the other goes through a belay system operated by children, teachers and the group leader. As well as belaying, the children waiting for their turn to climb are kept busy providing encouragement and advice to fellow climbers. We have extra challenges for those who choose to push themselves that bit further, as well as exciting climbing games to suit all levels of confidence and ability. Our instructors are skilled not only in the technical aspects of climbing, but also as motivators and confidence builders so that they can ensure every child leaves this session feeling proud of what they have achieved.

“Super reassurance from the staff for children who felt unsure about this activity.”
St Bede’s RC Primary School, Carlisle

“Every child was encouraged to push themselves, and they all did so. By belaying each other, the children developed trust within their groups.”
Bradshaw Primary Academy, Halifax
5. Crate Challenge

Crate challenge is a high activity with the emphasis on teamwork. Four children, each wearing a harness with safety ropes attached are given the challenge of building a crate tower together. As for the climbing sessions one safety rope is attached to an auto-belay, whilst the other goes through a belay system operated by children. The safety ropes ensure that anyone falling from the crate tower is gently lowered to the ground at a safe and steady pace. The children need to work as a team, climbing up the crate tower as they build it. The rest of the group offer assistance in different ways, including belaying and passing crates up to those building the tower as the tower gets higher.
6. Dungeon

The group need to escape together from the Dungeon; a place full of cobwebs, spooky noises, skeletons and other horrors. They can only do this through excellent teamwork, with some problems to be solved in smaller groups and other challenges to be overcome with the whole activity group working together. Tunnels normally connect some of the dungeon areas. Typical problems include a dungeon floor with sensors and only one safe route through, a number matrix and a large tilt maze, all of which needs total teamwork to solve. The stories group leaders tell to introduce the challenges to come help generate extra excitement and wonder, but whilst capturing the imagination, they remain conscious of the importance of not making it too frightening, particularly for the younger groups.

Crate Challenge - “This was a favourite activity for the pupils and the staff loved the importance of team work.”
Hexham East first School, Hexham

“Excellent for team building.”
Castleton Primary School, Rochdale
Adventure and teamwork combine on the giant swing. Two children each wearing a helmet and harness go on the swing together, securely attached to the swing bar. The rest of the activity group pull on a rope which lifts the swing bar up to its starting position. The children on the swing can choose when they pull the release cord to start. It’s their choice whether they start from the highest point or release closer to the ground for a more gentle swing. However high you choose to go, the giant swing is one of our most exhilarating and popular activity sessions.

“After talking about Robinwood back at school, this came out as the most popular activity.”
Marshlands Primary School, North Humberside

“Excellent fun factor!”
Stakeford First School, Northumberland
With blindfold in place the children put one hand on the rope and then follow it wherever it goes. It goes to all sorts of interesting places! Games and activities are generally played prior to the nightline to maximise the group's chance of success in working together and helping one another. Discussion of the senses and developing communication and teamwork throughout the group can provide many educational benefits on this session. The surprises to be discovered en route as children worm their way over, under and through various obstacles ensure the session is also a lot of fun.

“Children loved it and I could see the many improvements to the course since last year.”

Ingleby Mill Primary School, Ingleby Barwick

“The night line rebuild is excellent and much more fun!”

Lawns Park Primary School, Leeds
9. Challenge Course

Robinwood challenge courses typically run through wooded areas of the grounds and incorporate many different challenges for the group. We have tunnels to crawl through, walls and scramble netting to climb on, rope bridges to cross and various other obstacles for the group to overcome. The course blends into the woodland environment, making use of the natural resources available. In order to make their way round, the group need to work together as a team to overcome the obstacles they face.

At The Old School we have a fantastic natural challenge course. On a boulder field close to the activity centre children can scramble over the top and explore the many passageways beneath, squeezing through tight gaps on the way. At Cross Lanes our Challenge Course is a high wires circuit designed to test both the individual and the team.
10. Piranha Pool

This session involves different ‘escape room’ type challenges, going back and forth across our ‘piranha pool’, without falling in. We introduced this themed problem solving session over the first couple of years that Robinwood operated and it has developed over the years since then to become, for many schools, the most talked about and eagerly anticipated session at Robinwood. To achieve success the group must demonstrate skills in planning, communicating, evaluating and problem solving. We also ensure that the “piranhas”(?) are unable to cause any injury should a child (or teacher) briefly join them in their pool.

Challenge Course - “The improvements made on the challenge course were noticeable, adding to the enjoyment of the activity”

Wigton Moor Primary School, Leeds

“A legendary activity which is a favourite year on year.”

High Spen Primary School, High Spen

“Best year so far for quality of learning and success in this activity”

Viewley Hill Academy, Middlesbrough
There are a series of problems for each activity group to overcome and if they can manage to do this the Quest is achieved. To find solutions they will need brain power and physical skills, but most of all teamwork. We have problems for the whole activity group together and problems for smaller groups, which ensure that every child is involved. The different centres have developed their own variations on this theme, including for example ‘Knights Quest’ and ‘Alien Conspiracy’.

“Brilliant, children and staff loved the Quest!”
Old Moat Community Primary School, Withington

Team Challenge - “Children loved this – a real highlight!”
Marcliffe Community Primary School, Sheffield
12. Team Challenge

Most of our activity sessions take place with one activity group and their group leader at a time, but for team challenge we get a number of activity groups together one evening for various intergroup challenges. This is an opportunity for the whole school group to share experiences. Teachers, children, group leaders and course leaders spend time together, taking part in stimulating and fun challenges. We have a lot of different options for team challenge activities and in order that we can run a team challenge that is right for each school, we invite teachers to choose activities and have some input on the way team challenge operates, before the session starts. Although scheduled as an indoor session schools sometimes choose to do part of team challenge outdoors.
13. Trapeze

Climb up to stand on a platform around 5 metres above the ground, then leap off and catch a bar, which is dangling a short distance in front of you. That is the challenge that you face on our trapeze session, but you are of course roped on and therefore safe from falling throughout. The skill, patience, experience and all round personality of our instructors ensures every child is given the very best coaching and support to complete this challenge. The buzz of excitement created throughout makes this a very popular activity session.

“All children pushed to limits.”
Lydiate Primary School, Liverpool

“A super challenge for everyone.”
Ninelands Primary School, Leeds
Zip wire is a real thrill activity, which is great for group support and encouragement, individual confidence and achievement. There are two zip wires from each platform, in order to reduce waiting time and maximise group involvement. Children wear a helmet and a full body safety harness, as they do for the trapeze session.

They are roped on from the moment they leave the ground, with rigorous safety standards carefully enforced by our instructors throughout.

"Thoroughly enjoyed by all."
Carlton Primary School, Barnsley

"Absolutely Fabulous!"
Dowson Primary School, Hyde
15. Raft Building

Another great activity for teamwork combined with water sports fun. We provide a range of items that could be used to make a raft, with various design options possible to challenge the group before they get out on the water. As with a number of our outdoor activities we can adapt sessions in response to weather conditions.

The session doesn’t run over the winter months. In the summer, the children are very likely to get wet during this session! Buoyancy aids and canoe helmets are essential kit for all water sports.
Raft Building - “Best activity all weekend.”
St Michael's C E Academy, Wakefield

Raft Building - “Children learnt a lot about team work from this activity.”
Elmridge Primary School, Cheshire

“The best outdoor activity ever! The children haven’t stopped talking about it.”
Bowburn Junior School, Bowburn

a really positive DIFFERENCE developing children
Achieving Learning Objectives
Outside the Classroom

The benefits of a Robinwood course are many and varied. Teamwork forms a major part of the course, with the children often split into smaller groups to ensure maximum involvement and benefit. Children also learn new skills, gain self confidence and independence, develop their social and interpersonal skills and learn to appreciate the countryside and outdoor opportunities.

There are curriculum links with the activities offered, which are developed by the instructors. Additional information detailing activity learning objectives is included within the party leaders’ manual.
Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge

All four Robinwood Centres hold the Learning Outside the Classroom (loTc) Quality Badge. This is a national accreditation combining the essential elements of provision, learning and safety, into one easily recognisable and trusted Quality Badge for all types of Learning Outside the Classroom.

The Robinwood experience also links perfectly with the every child matters outcomes; ‘be healthy’, ‘stay safe’, ‘enjoy and achieve’, ‘make a positive contribution’.

Essentials for Learning and Life

Whatever theme you choose to focus on, a residential at Robinwood also provides a wonderful opportunity for children to develop two key areas of National Curriculum Essentials for Learning:

Personal and emotional skills; Children take responsibility for their own learning and show initiative, perseverance and a commitment to self improvement. They recognise that achievement builds self confidence and resilience, enabling them to deal positively with praise and constructive criticism.

Social skills; Children develop the skills to work well with other people. They are responsible, adaptable and anticipate others’ views and feelings. They appreciate the value of rules for working together and play an active part in group and classroom activities.

Throughout their time at Robinwood, children;
• challenge themselves to overcome fears.
• improve their listening skills.
• take on leadership roles.
• become more confident speaking out in a group.
• support others in challenging situations.
• become great team members and help their group work more as a team.
• work successfully with children they would not normally work with.
• become more aware of the needs of others.
• improve their problem solving skills.
• develop new skills.
• overcome physical challenges.

“We were delighted with our visit to Robinwood. The children were encouraged to overcome their fears and were supported to succeed. All children and staff enjoyed taking part in all activities. It was interesting to see a real leadership quality coming out in a range of children with some surprises. Excellent staff at Robinwood, who give 100% to the children. Thank you.”

Christ Church CofE Primary School, Oldham

“We were delighted with our visit to Robinwood. The children were encouraged to overcome their fears and were supported to succeed. All children and staff enjoyed taking part in all activities. It was interesting to see a real leadership quality coming out in a range of children with some surprises. Excellent staff at Robinwood, who give 100% to the children. Thank you.”

St. Andrew’s C of E Primary School, Dearnley, Rochdale

“I’ve subsequently planned about 4/5 weeks of literacy work based on our trip to Robinwood, largely linked with the knowledge of our course leader. On arrival, we sat down and discussed what I wanted to get out of the trip, and from that, she provided some great ideas and later on provided me with a resource which we have used back at school. We spoke about independence and I don’t think the children could have been given much more opportunity to be independent! All staff were very patient with some low ability SEN children. All Robinwood staff worked alongside our staff and communicated effectively to identify behaviour strategies. I think just the staff in general were absolutely fab. Every member of staff who looked after us all really well, thank you!”

Brockholes CE Primary School, Brockholes

“T he location is amazing and the organisation of all the activities and day to day running is out of this world. Such well organised facilities help to make it so much more. The children benefitted from the expected level of independence. I was amazed at how the children look up the challenges set. Since coming back to school, the children have been better at working in teams and more accepting of each other.”

St. Andrew’s C of E Primary School, Dearnley, Rochdale
Introducing our new
Teacher’s Resource Pack

3 bespoke lesson plans & supporting documentation

Specifically designed to work in conjunction with your Robinwood residential.
The complete teacher's activity pack for pupils attending Robinwood, designed to assist teacher's and focus on the qualities the children develop during their robinwood visit.

At Robinwood we have a dedicated company wide team that is made up of staff who have either worked in education or currently still work part time in schools. Some are even teachers that visited Robinwood with their school prior to starting employment with us. With their help, Robinwood is very pleased to present to you this resources pack which includes many fun and exciting exercises for you and your class to use before and after your Robinwood residential.

The idea behind this was to bring all the ideals and development from Robinwood, into a classroom where it would fit into the curriculum and further aid children's development. The lesson packs have been thought about in context with Robinwood but also within the classroom. All the activities can be done even if the groups haven't yet been to Robinwood or with children who will not be attending to include everyone and develop all the school/class. They are designed to be able to fit into the school's own curriculum with the lesson packs being used as they are, as an idea starter or to be adapted for the school and time.

Inside it we have 3 lesson packs each tailored to develop 3 of the 12 qualities group leaders work on at Robinwood. The qualities are the 12 development areas group leaders can focus on to develop the children over the three days. With these resources, the children extend the qualities they have worked on during the course. The lesson packs have been designed as an extension to the Robinwood course, in a way which is energetic and involves groups but at the same time is reflective and self-assessed.

Within this pack there are also lots of resources for you to use in the classroom. Such as:

- Borders for photo boards or classroom displays with official Robinwood photos and logos.
- Writing frames for children to write pieces or letters to Robinwood, including one for each centre with a cartoon image of the centre you visit.
- Newspaper articles based on some sessions such as Piranha Pool and Dungeon.

Plus, much more!

take a look at the next two pages to see exactly what’s included!
Freeze Frame Lesson Pack

Learning Objective
1. Become more aware of the feelings of my team mates.
2. Be able to encourage people to take on, and succeed at a difficult challenge.
3. Collaborate with team mates to achieve an outcome.

Support, Encouragement, Confidence, Listening

Using scenarios from Robinwood and real life, children have to work in small groups to dramatise the scenario, explaining how support and confidence effects the situation. The children then freeze frame and one or more can explain the thoughts and feelings of all the characters in the room. Focusing on supporting the whole team.

Biscuit Drop Lesson Pack

Learning Objective
1. Demonstrate awareness and respect for your team mates.
2. Show patience.
3. Get involved and carry out your role responsibilities.

Cooperation, Responsibility, Patience and Respect

Working as a team the children have to "drop" a biscuit from a height without it breaking. The team will work together to design and produce a packaging to protect the biscuit from the "drop". Each member of the team will be given a role to play during the task and given restrictions to work within. They will also have a budget to buy their resources with, spending wisely. Focusing on how they can all work together.
Round Robin Lesson Pack

Using the provided activity booklet, activity stations are set up where teams have a set time to complete the task. The tasks include hula-hoop challenges to problem solving riddles and many in between. After each activity, each member in the group can fill in a reflective word to explain how the task went, then as a team they can review and think about what they can do better on the next task. Focusing on completing tasks and involving everyone.

**Resilience, Developing Skills, Problem Solving, Communication**

**Learning Objective**

1. Be a great team member.
2. Improve listening and communication skills.
3. Work well with different people.
4. To support others and become more aware of their needs.

**Supporting Documents**

Also included are other documents to use within the classroom. There are classroom borders of many designs from Robinwood logos to activity based ones, to promote or show off the time away and fun had.

Handy dictionaries that have all the technical lingo that may have been forgotten. Newspaper articles about the Piranha Pool or Dungeon to aid mysterious tales and also writing templates that include the Robinwood centres.

"The children and staff cannot stop talking about their experiences. I have a long queue of staff desperate to visit Robinwood. We have been able to implement many of the skills learned with our children back at school."

Orrell Lamberhead Green Community Primary School, Wigan
General Details and...
Party Leader Information

Safety

We have an excellent safety record over 23 years of operation and currently more than 405000 visiting pupils each year. All of our activities take place in safe secure environments that are appropriate to provide a safe introduction to adventure activities for groups of 7 to 11 year olds.

The quality of our staff team and the extensive training programme they undergo is central to having and maintaining an outstanding safety record. We have a rigorous programme of activity session assessments to ensure everyone is working to the right standard.

We also instil an attitude of safety as a state of mind; such that all staff have safety as their highest priority whatever is happening.

Risk assessments

We have carried out detailed risk assessments of all aspects of a Robinwood course, including activity sessions and other areas. We review and update these assessments on a regular basis and ensure that children are not placed in risk situations. Copies of our risk assessments are provided within the party leader manual. We can also give full support as needed in the completion of any safety related documentation, required by your local authority or any other body, prior to your Robinwood trip.

Safeguarding

Robinwood Activity Centres are committed to protecting the safety of the children that visit our centres and ensuring that they are in an environment within which they feel safe and happy. We believe that all children should be treated with respect and endeavour to ensure this is the case through robust and clear policies relating to recruitment and behaviour of staff and accompanying adults. We ensure our safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice.

“Overall our experience of Robinwood was very very positive. We look forward to working with the staff again next year.”

Cutthorpe Primary School, Chesterfield

“We’d just like to say thanks to everyone who is involved in making the Robinwood experience happen. We always have such a great time and it’s great to see our learners develop in front of our eyes. They always return to school amazed and proud by their own achievements and full of amazing memories. For teachers and parents coming to Robinwood is as stress free as residential visits get! We always know that the children will be well looked after, have a great time and learn loads. We know we’re in good hands when we book in at Robinwood so thanks to everyone who helps to make it what it is – which is fantastic.”

Worsbrough Common Primary School, Worsbrough Common
a really positive DIFFERENCE developing children
General Details and Party Leader Information

Staffing Levels

We feel that good levels of supervision, from a high quality staff team, are vitally important for the success of Robinwood courses. When centres are operating 7 days a week, we typically have 3 instructor team staff employed for every 10 children that could attend, so a centre with a capacity of 180, would typically have a total of 54 (3 x 18) instructor team staff. Additional to the instructor team staff we also have a number of support staff employed including catering, domestic and maintenance staff.

The level of supervision on activity sessions is appropriate to the nature of the activity taking place. For most activity sessions the group leader takes charge of their activity group, of between 9 and 13 children, without assistance from other Robinwood staff. For certain activity sessions, zip wire for example a second, appropriately qualified, member of the Robinwood team is timetabled to work with the group leader.

Although group leaders run a lot of sessions on their own, we do activity session observations on a frequent basis, to aid staff development and to look to improve standards wherever we can. Additional to all the Robinwood staff there are of course the teachers and other adults who accompany children on a trip to Robinwood.

A key team of staff working exclusively with your school

When we ran our first courses at Robinwood in Todmorden in 1994 we only took one school group, of around 25 children, at a time. Schools that attended then really appreciated the exclusive use of the centre and the exclusive attention of our staff team, so we continue to try and offer the same special attention and exclusive feel that we did in our first year.

It is most likely that there will be other schools resident and you will probably see them at meal times, at break times and generally around the centre, but the children are kept so busy there is very little time to mix.

Smaller Schools

We recognise that some smaller schools may, on occasions, find it difficult to get a group together with at least 20 children to attend Robinwood.

Some smaller schools overcome this by bringing two year groups or the whole of their key stage two together. We also have smaller schools that combine with other schools for their Robinwood visit. If you would like to attend but feel you may have difficulty getting the normal minimum number of 20 children to attend please phone to discuss this with us and we will do all we can to assist.

We do also have the option of a single activity group booking. Payment is required for a minimum of 10 children, with a maximum capacity of 13 children.

Insurance

We have comprehensive public liability insurance cover in place for up to £10m.

We also recommend that all visiting schools are covered by an appropriate travel insurance scheme that covers travel to and from the centre, as well as cancellation and curtailment benefits. A Robinwood travel insurance scheme is available for a small extra charge for any schools that require this option.

Course Prices

Course prices are given on a separate sheet accompanying this brochure. They are also shown on our website. If you have any queries on prices or anything else please don’t hesitate to phone us on 01706 814554.

“Once again we thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Robinwood! The children challenged themselves, supported each other and achieved many goals, while having great fun! Thank you!”
Shincliffe C of E Primary School, High Shincliffe

“This was an amazing experience for both children and staff alike. We faced our fears and challenges together and were supported all the way. Amazing service and value throughout.”
Tow Law Millennium Primary, Bishop Auckland
a really positive difference developing children
General Details and Party Leader Information

Food

The food is good and there is plenty of it!

As well as toast and cereals, we provide a full cooked breakfast. At lunch time we typically provide a chicken wrap or baked potatoes with fillings, sandwiches, soup, fruit and yoghurts. We provide a cooked evening meal, pasta bolognese or pizza for example, followed by a tasty dessert.

Meals vary throughout the year with more hot food available over winter time. Break time snacks are also provided by Robinwood.

There is always a vegetarian option and special diets can be catered for as required as long as we are notified in advance. We aim to provide healthy meals that will appeal to the children in order that they get the energy intake they need to fuel their three days at Robinwood.

Robinwood caters for many thousands of children each year, including many with special dietary requirements. We always have vegetarian alternatives available and many of our staff are vegetarian. As long as we have sufficient notice we should be able to cater for all special diets requested.

If a child or adult has very specialist requirements due to a particular medical condition then it would be helpful to discuss these needs and requirements in advance. Under these circumstances it is often helpful for either a teacher or parent to speak directly to our catering manager in order to agree the details of our catering provision.

All of our Activity Centres are Nut Free.

Supervision outside of activity times

Children attending a Robinwood course are supervised by Robinwood staff throughout their stay; whether this is during activity sessions, break times, meal times or night times. We organise things so that when they're not sleeping the children are kept busy all the time. Most of the time that means taking part in activity sessions, but in-between activity sessions the group leaders get the children involved in games, puzzles, songs and a variety of different challenges which are a key part of the whole Robinwood experience. Break times are also spent reviewing experiences and getting children kitted out for their next activity session.

Children sleep in dormitories with all bedding provided and toilet facilities close by. We recognise that children of this age do not always get showers of their own accord, so showers are timetabled in for all activity groups and group leaders ensure good standards of cleanliness are maintained.

Night duty staff supervise overnight and are assisted at relevant times by bedtime staff and wake-up staff. All dormitories have a call assistance button that can be pressed by the children, if they need a member of the Robinwood team overnight.

Preview visits to Robinwood centres

We welcome inspection visits from prospective party leaders or LEA advisors at any mutually convenient time. A senior member of our staff team will be happy to show you round the centre and answer any questions you may have. Typically we arrange previews in term time on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Simply telephone us on 01706 814554 to arrange a visit.

“As always the children all had a fantastic experience and grew as individuals. It's a testament to all the staff involved that the trip to Robinwood is the highlight of Year 6 for all the children.”

Star of the Sea RC Primary School, Whitley Bay

“All staff were extremely polite and helpful – lovely. The whole experience was faultless. Safety was always first – closely followed with enjoyment.”

St Alphonsus’ RC Primary School, Middlesbrough
a really positive DIFFERENCE developing children
General Details and Party Leader Information

Do you provide further party leader information?

We provide a party leader’s manual which will guide you through everything involved with organising and leading a trip to Robinwood.

The party leader’s manual covers a range of areas including;

- Risk assessments.
- Additional safety information.
- Code of conduct for children.
- Teachers and Robinwood staff working together.
- General party leader details.
- Developing qualities on a Robinwood course.
- Children with special needs at Robinwood.
- A copy of our LOTC.
- Sample copy of the optional insurance cover.
- Suggested clothing list.

Your party leader’s manual is normally sent out when a provisional booking is made, but if you would like to see a copy before then please just ask.

Meetings at school, for parents and children, before a Robinwood course takes place

If you are considering a Robinwood course for the first time, we are happy to come to your school, to do a presentation to parents and children, before or after you confirm a booking. The presentation includes a 30-minute talk, supported by lots of activity illustrations and examples of activity equipment used. There is also, of course, plenty of opportunity to answer any questions that parents and children may have.

Rail transport

Travelling by train is an option worth considering for both of our Todmorden centres which are both within walking distance of Todmorden train station. It is possible to gain significant discounts for group travel by train to and from a Robinwood course. We would be happy to meet any groups travelling by train from the station and to escort them back to the station at the end of their course. We would also arrange for luggage to be transported between the station and the centre as required.

If you would like an information pack about planning your rail journey including information about specific railway stations en-route, please let us know.

In order to make enquiries about group discounts for train travel to Todmorden station, please telephone Northern Rail on 0113 2479 659.

"Excellent as usual – children had a fantastic experience. Good to see facilities are kept to a high standard. Good support for teachers – minimised stress and allowed us to spend valuable time getting to know the children better."

Fairfield Primary School, Fairfield

"As always we value the whole Robinwood experience and especially the care and enthusiasm of the staff, thank you."

Hareside Primary School, Cramlington

"The activities were age appropriate for the children. The days were action packed which kept the young children occupied and emotionally sound. The children have been excited back at school and has made a lasting impression on them."

South Street Primary School, Gateshead
a really positive DIFFERENCE developing children
The School Liaison Team

Each school has one person as their School Liaison "key contact' to follow through the whole booking process with you.

If you have any key priorities or special requirements, your School Liaison will be happy to discuss these with you and advise you, liaising with the activity centre in order we do everything possible to deliver the best course we can for your school, focussed on your priorities.

Please don’t hesitate to contact the School Liaison who covers your LEA area, as detailed below:

**Ani Bari**

**Telephone:** 01706 811052  
**E-mail:** anisah.bari@robinwood.co.uk

**Joe Hawkesworth**

**Telephone:** 01706 811051  
**E-mail:** joe.hawkesworth@robinwood.co.uk

**Sheila Foster**

**Telephone:** 01706 811053  
**E-mail:** sheila.foster@robinwood.co.uk

**Avril Johnson**

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LEA areas covered; City of York, Clackmannan, Darlington, Durham, East Dunbartonshire, East Riding of Yorkshire, Edinburgh, Gateshead, Glasgow, Harrow, Hartlepool, Kingston upon Hull, Lincolnshire, Mediddlesborough, Midlothian, Newcastle, NE Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire, North Lanarkshire, North Tyneside, North Yorkshire, Northumberland, Redcar & Cleveland, Scottish Borders, South Lanarkshire, South Tyneside, Stockton on Tees, Sunderland, West Lathian.

LEA areas covered; Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool, Bolton, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Knowsley, Lancashire, Manchester, Salford, Shropshire, St Helens, Tameside, Telford, Trafford, Warrington, Wigan, Wrexham.

LEA areas covered; Bedfordshire, Bradford, Bury, Calderdale, Coventry, Cumbria, Hertfordshire, Leeds, Milton Keynes, Oldham, Rochdale, Rutland, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall, Wolverhampton.

LEA areas covered; Barnsley, Birmingham, Bradford, Bury, Calderdale, City of Derby, City of Nottingham, Cheshire East, Cheshire West, Coventry, Cumbria, Derbyshire, Doncaster, Dudley, Halton, Kirklees, Leeds, Leicester City, Leicestershire, Liverpool, Nottinghamshire, Oldham, Rochdale, Rotherham, Selton, Sheffield, Wakefield, Warwickshire, Wirral.

“Our School Liaison at Head Office always responded very quickly to any requests we made and was helpful throughout the booking process.”

St Willibrord’s RC Primary School, Clayton

“The Head Office staff are very approachable and quick to respond to queries.”

Bullion Lane Primary School, Chester Le Street

“Every time I phoned Head Office they always solved the issue.”

Greenside Primary School and Early Years Centre, Droylsden
a really positive DIFFERENCE developing children
Making a Booking

If you would like to book a Robinwood course please telephone us to check if the dates you are interested in are available and we can then reserve a place for you, with no obligation.

Your initial booking is made for the number of activity groups that you need.

All parties attending Robinwood are split into ‘activity groups’ with typically an average of between 10 and 11 children in each activity group. Activity groups can vary in size between 9 and 13 children.

When you make a booking, you don’t need to confirm the exact number of children that will be attending as we realise this is difficult to do a long way in advance. We just ask you to confirm the number of activity groups you would like to book for, which in turn fixes the minimum charge for your party and the maximum number of children in your party as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of activity groups booked:</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum number of children:</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum number of children:</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We can accommodate groups of up to 285 children. Please contact us if you would like to discuss a larger group booking.

Reserving dates with a provisional booking

Course dates can be saved provisionally for your party, with no obligation, for up to three weeks whilst you contact parents and make any other necessary arrangements.

At the end of this three week period we need to receive, a signed booking form from you, together with an initial deposit payment of £100 per activity group (around £10 per child) in order to confirm your booking.

As soon as we have your booking form and initial deposit payment, your booking is secure.

There are then two further payment dates:

- A second deposit of £200 per activity group (around £20 per child) is due 8 weeks after the first deposit payment.
- The completion payment for the whole course is due 6 weeks before the course.

“Robinwood is outstanding in every area. From the pre booking stage all the way through to the children getting on the bus to go home. Every single angle is covered to superb detail.”

Our Lady of the Rosary R C Primary School, Urmston

“Head Office – every aspect of booking our trip to Robinwood has been exemplary. Office staff have been helpful, well informed and have been able to deal with any changes to bookings or special requests from us. Huge thanks from our school office.”

Woolston Primary School, Woolston

Telephone: 01706 814554   www. robinwood.co.uk
a really positive DIFFERENCE developing children
Making a Booking

**Flexibility in final numbers**
Our system of booking for a fixed number of activity groups rather than a fixed number of children has proved popular with many schools.

As long as you remain within the minimum and maximum limits stated, the actual numbers of children can vary right up until the date of the course and we will only charge for the number of children that actually attend.

**Commitment to minimum numbers**
When you confirm a booking, you are making a firm commitment to pay for the minimum number of children, as stated on the previous page, for that number of activity groups. A booking is confirmed when a deposit payment has been made and a signed booking form has been returned.

**Adult places free of charge**
All adults attend free of charge. We recommend that there is one accompanying adult for each activity group, but are quite flexible about the total number of adults attending. If more adults would like to attend we can generally accommodate up to a maximum of 2 adults per activity group booked, but it is always best to talk this through with us first so we can explain the accommodation available. Our supervision level is such that it is also not a problem for Robinwood if you would like to bring less than 1 adult per activity group.

**Insurance : £5 per child**
We always recommend that schools take out our travel insurance option unless the school or L.E.A. already has cover for the group, which includes the coach journey to and from Robinwood Activity Centres.

“The Head Office staff went out of their way to be supportive.”
*West Park Academy, Darlington*

“From the initial booking to leaving the centre, the whole process was dealt with efficiently and effectively, our specific requirements were addressed and handled brilliantly – thank you.”
*St Peter’s Primary School, Wem*
Anything we’ve forgotten to mention?

It's always difficult to include all the information needed in one brochure. If you would like to hear more or have any questions or queries, please don’t hesitate to phone 01706 814554
If you would like to book a Robinwood course please telephone us to check if the dates you are interested in are available and we can then reserve a place for you, with no obligation.