

Riddings Junior School

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Wednesday, 16 September 2026

Dear Year 4

Riddings Residential

Dear Year 4 Children and Parents/Carers,
Next week we will be holding the Year 4 Riddings Residential. We know many of you are excited, and we've received lots of questions, so we've put together some answers to help everyone prepare for the big day!

Frequently Asked Questions

- During the day, both class teachers, Mrs Beecroft Mrs Skelding and Mrs Mountain, will be helping the Acclimbatize instructors with the activities. Other members of staff will also come out during the day to see how you are getting on.
- You will eat your packed lunch in the woods with staff. Please do not bring fizzy drinks.
- Other children will not be joining in – this is your special day!
- You will sleep (hopefully!) together in the hall after changing into your pyjamas in separate classrooms.
- We will provide PE mats to sleep on for extra comfort, but you are welcome to bring a blanket, sleeping mat or other suitable bedding from home.
- Miss Pilling, Miss Miko, Miss Saville and Mr Newman will all be staying overnight. Other staff members have also kindly volunteered their time to help during the evening. Please remember that they are giving up their own time so that you can enjoy this experience.
- Snoring is not allowed! 😌
- You may bring popcorn and a small bag of sweets to enjoy during the evening film. (Don't worry – the films won't be scary!) We will provide biscuits and a drink. We may even need a dustpan and brush for all the popcorn that mysteriously ends up on the floor!
- Yes, you do need to clean your teeth.
- Yes, we will leave some lights on during the night.
- Yes, you can go to the toilet during the night whenever you need to.
- Yes, of course you can bring a teddy.
- The hall can become a little chilly overnight, so feel free to wear a jumper and socks if you wish.
- If it rains, the activities will still go ahead, so please make sure you bring a coat, wear suitable footwear and avoid wearing jeans.

Food

Evening Meal

- Chips, a sausage in a cob and beans.
- A vegetarian alternative will be available if we have been informed in advance.
- The meal will be prepared by Sarah and Diane, our wonderful kitchen staff, who have very kindly volunteered their time to cook for us. They also do all the washing up!

Breakfast

- Toast and a drink.
- Again, this will be provided by staff.
- No, we won't be taking personal breakfast orders! 😊
- And no, staff won't be cooking a full English breakfast for everyone!

Other Important Information

- You do not need to bring any spending money.
- Parents and carers should collect children from school at 9:00am on Saturday morning.
- Don't forget to say goodbye to your family on Friday morning—but don't worry, you'll see them again on Saturday!
- Please make sure ALL clothing and belongings are clearly named.

Arriving on Friday

On Friday morning, please ask whoever brings you to school to help carry your bags, sleeping kit and other belongings up to your classroom, where they will be stored during the day. You will collect them after the activities have finished.

Once you have taken your belongings to your classroom, please remain there so that we can complete the register before the day begins.

We hope this answers your questions. If you have any others, please do not hesitate to ask either of us.

We are all looking forward to a fantastic residential and a memorable start to Year 4!

Best wishes,

Miss K Pilling
Phase Leader / Richards Class

Kit List and Information for Pupils and Parents

We are really looking forward to our Year 4 Riddings Residential. The programme of exciting adventurous activities will challenge and inspire you and help you achieve many new things with the support of friends, teachers and Acclimbatize staff. We know that we will all have a fantastic experience and learn more about yourself and what you can achieve.

This information outlines a few of things that you and your parent/carer might wish to know about the experience. Please read it carefully so that you know what to expect.

ACTIVITIES - Run by nationally qualified staff, will include archery, tree climbing, a rock-climbing wall, outdoor cooking, fire lighting, team building activities, shelter building.

SAFETY - Acclimbatize has full risk assessments for all activities and has been inspected by Derbyshire County Council Health & Safety Department. All equipment is well maintained.

SUPERVISION - Parents should be aware that overnight supervision will be carried out by school staff. The activities during the day will be supervised by the class teachers and Acclimbatize staff.

No specialist, outdoor clothing / equipment is needed but the children should bring a spare set of clothing with them as, dependent upon the weather, they might get rather wet and muddy. As a guide the clothes that the children wear for Forest School would be appropriate and remember that layers are better than one thick jumper if the weather is colder.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE NAME ALL CLOTHING!

Suggested Kit List – the weather forecast will help inform what is worn of course

- Packed lunch, drink and snack
- Warm Coat/Jacket for activities
- A pair of Outdoor Shoes/Trainers
- Tracksuit Bottoms/Leggings NOT jeans which get cold and heavy when wet
- Sweatshirt/Fleece/Hoodies
- Underwear change
- Pyjamas/onesie
- Indoor trainers/slippers/socks
- Thick socks – and at least one spare pair
- Bin liner for dirty clothes
- Toothbrush and face towel
- Pillow
- Sleeping bag / duvet
- Sleeping mat/thick blanket for an extra mattress (if you have one)
- Teddy bear!
- Water Bottle
- Torch (optional - please check the batteries!
- NO mobile phones or electronic devices

Pick up from school is 9.00am Saturday morning