**Secondary School Courses 2024 - 2025**

All our courses use challenging outdoor activities in the beautiful natural setting of the Lake District as a vehicle for learning and development. They help students to develop awareness of and respect for themselves, other people and the natural environment.

We offer a number of different courses designed for Secondary schools:

[**Challenge**](http://derwenthill.co.uk/schools/courses/challenge/) is a 5-day course. During a *Challenge* course students: improve their self-awareness and personal responsibility; develop the ability to work with other people and to contribute to the success of the team; improve their ability to solve problems and meet new challenges; increase their motivation and appetite for learning, and raise aspirations; learn to assess and manage risk.

The [**John Muir Award**](http://derwenthill.co.uk/schools/courses/john-muir-award/) is a national environmental award scheme focused on wild places. The 5-day course encourages awareness and responsibility for the natural environment, in a spirit of fun, adventure and exploration. It has four essential elements: discovering a wild place; exploring its wildness; conserving by taking personal responsibility; sharing experiences.

Our [**Activity Weekend**](http://derwenthill.co.uk/schools/courses/outdoor-activity-weekend/) provides an introduction to a range of outdoor activities, or an opportunity to specialise in one activity. It can be tailored to focus on specific learning outcomes if required.

Students studying [**GCSE PE**](http://derwenthill.co.uk/schools/courses/custom-courses/)can complete a module in a chosen outdoor activity during a 3-day course, or for some activities in a long weekend.

We also design [**Custom courses**](http://derwenthill.co.uk/schools/courses/custom-courses/)based on your specific requirements for learning objectives, activities or length. Examples of custom courses include: exam revision weekends; transition courses; subject-focused courses in partnership with your teachers; specialist activity courses (Ratio 1:8); Leadership courses; courses for special schools or PRUs. Please contact us to discuss the possibilities.

[**Leadership**](http://derwenthill.co.uk/schools/courses/custom-courses/) is a custom course aimed at students in Years 10 to 13, and can be tailored to meet the needs of different groups. Students develop the personal qualities and wider key skills required in the world of work; gain experience and an understanding of leadership; develop an understanding of team roles, and value  their own and others' contribution to a team; create an individual action plan.

5-day courses normally run from 10.30 am on Monday to 1.30 pm on Friday.

Weekend courses normally run from 5.00 pm on Friday to 4.30 pm on Sunday.

Further details of these courses are on our [website](https://www.derwenthill.co.uk/schools/courses/)

**Prices per pupil**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Prices per pupil for standard 1 group courses** | **Secondary schools 2024 - 2025** | | | | | | | |
| **Sunderland schools** | | | | **Schools outside Sunderland** | | | |
| **5-day** | **3-day** | **Weekend** | | **5-day** | **3-day** | **Weekend** | |
| **Challenge** | **Challenge** | **Outdoor Activities** | **GCSE**  **PE** | **Challenge** | **Challenge** | **Outdoor Activities** | **GCSE PE** |
| **Low Season\*\***  Start and end in December, January, February | **£280** | **£168** | **£139** | **£175** | **£371** | **£201** | **£181** | **£244** |
| **Mid-Season\*\***  Start and end in November, March and April | **£312** | **£186** | **£155** | **£194** | **£412** | **£224** | **£201** | **£271** |
| **Peak Season**  Start and end in May, June, July, August, September and October  (Minimum fee per activity group applies) | **£358** | **£214** | **£178** | **£223** | **£474** | **£257** | **£231** | **£312** |

\*\*When the dates of the course extend across seasons, the lower season rate applies.

In prime season when there is increased demand for accommodation and on available resources a minimum fee per activity group applies.

**Visiting Staff**

We provide one free staff place per group.

* 1 Group: 2 Accompanying Staff
* 2 Groups: 3 Accompanying Staff
* 3 Groups: 4 Accompanying Staff

Whenever practically possible we encourage schools to also bring a floating member of staff, this would normally be the Visit Leader, their place will also be free of charge.

Any other additional staff will be charged equivalent to the pupil price of the visit.

Prices for custom courses and for courses requiring us to provide a higher staff ratio can be quoted on request.

**Group size and type of booking**

We allocate activity groups to your course on a ratio of 1:10. Certain activities such as kayaking, rock climbing and gorge walking may be co-tutored.  
GCSE PE and Specialist courses are a ratio of 1:8.

Our maximum capacity is 72 students and 9 staff, but with secondary schools we normally limit the maximum to **60**. If you have a minimum of 54 students, you can make an **Exclusive booking** and have the Centre to yourselves. If you have fewer than 54 students, you can make an Independent booking (or you could get together with another school to make a joint booking). An **Independent booking** means that your pupils take part in their course separately from any other school in the Centre, but may share some facilities with them.

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|  | **Exclusive** | **Independent** | **Joint** |
| Pupils share dormitories with students of the same gender from another establishment. | No | No | Occasionally, when necessary |
| Staff share a bedroom with staff from another establishment. | No | No | No, unless agreed in advance |
| Staff share a twin bedroom with a colleague from their own establishment. | Yes, if more than 6 staff in total | | |
| Pupils share activity groups with those from another school. | No | No | Yes |
| Staff sometimes accompany / supervise students from another establishment. | No | No | Yes |
| Centre facilities are shared with pupils from another establishment. | No | No | Yes |
| Derwent Hill grounds are shared with other users. | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Separate gender specific changing rooms for pupils and staff. | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Separate changing rooms for each school on departure day | N/A | Yes | Yes |