

The Rhos Y Gwaliau Outdoor Education Centre – Bala, Gwynedd, Wales

Sunday 8th March - Saturday 14th
March 2026

The Benefits of Residential Trips

Away from Home

- Extended time away from home - A new environment and routines
- A collaborative community environment
- Experience unstructured time

Relationships

- Students and teachers work more collaboratively in unfamiliar surroundings on unfamiliar tasks
- The teacher is not automatically the expert
- Opportunities to develop and practise key social skills

Why go on a residential?

Varied opportunities to experience

- A wide range of practical and physical challenges
- Opportunities for everyone to be successful at something
- Opportunities to overcome fears
- Immediate opportunities to revisit and build on learning experiences

New ways of learning

- A safe space to explore new ways of teaching and learning
- Focus on real-life activities and experiences
- Increased levels of student responsibility

The Benefits to you

- 'He has matured so much in Year 6 and it started the day he got back from the Wales Trip.' - Year 6 Parent
 - More organised
 - More confident
 - Less fearful

Concerns you may have.....

- Never been away from home
- It is a lot of money

If you are worried about either of these please email us, as we may be able to help you.

- There may be individual needs that we can discuss 1:1

The Rhos Y Gwaliau Outdoor Education Centre



Background

- Originally village primary school,
- Early 70s became RYG outdoor centre run by Mid Glamorgan LA
- being taken on by The Rhos Y Gwaliau Outdoor Education Trust - worked in conjunction with Berkshire Unitary Authority and later West Berkshire LA
- 15 years ago – taken on by staff members to be run as private business (Trust).
- Still supports many Berkshire schools
- Continues to maintain a very strong educational ethos
- Passionate about outdoor education

Where is it?



Travel

- By coach
- Stops on the way

Tanat Valley Coaches to provide transport to and from Berkshire

Travel while at the centre is by mini bus

RYG holds a coach operator's licence and adheres to British driving hours and legislation

All driving is carried out by PCV and CPC qualified drivers



Cost

- **£440** per pupil, which includes travel, accommodation, food, insurance & a T-shirt
 - Depends on the number of children going
- This needs to be paid by instalments or lump sum.
- Deposit - Friday 6th June 2025
- Final Payment date: Friday 13th February 2026

Dates for payments

- Deposit- £70
(refundable at the moment)

(decision by Friday 6th
June this becomes non-refundable)

July - £70

September - £70

October - £60

November - £60

January - £60

February - £50

pay online



Activities



What a moment!

Using the mountain



Underneath the mountain



Zip Wire



On the lake





Using the River



No matter the weather



Clothing and equipment

- Really old clothes including trainers. Better if **not** cotton. Sports tops are good.
- Walking shoes, jackets, fleece, wet suits etc. **provided by the centre**
- A kit list will be supplied in a brochure distributed closer to the journey.
- Water bottle and lunchbox
- Pillowcase and duvet cover





A Typical Day

- 7.30am Get up, dormitory inspection
- 8.00am Breakfast / Make packed lunch
- 9.00am Duties
- 9.15am Morning meeting
- 9.30am Activities
- 4.30pm Showers / Free time
- 5.30pm Dinner
- 7.00pm Evening Session
- 9.00pm Bedtime and lights out

Accommodation

- Children are in single sex purpose-built dormitories.
- A teacher from Birch Hill has a room along the corridor.
- Children need to take a pillowcase and duvet cover.
- Dormitories are large, but there is some flexibility for us to use some smaller dormitories if necessary.





Recreation/Common Meeting





Food

The centre provides a range of popular, healthy and nutritionally balanced meals.

We aim to use fresh and locally sourced produce as much as possible.

We serve a 3 course, home cooked meal every day.

Lunchbox snacks are freshly baked every day.

There is always plenty of fruit, which children can help themselves to at any time.

Special dietary requirements are well catered for.

The RYG kitchen has continually received top marks for food hygiene.





WHY DO WE LIKE RHOS Y GWALIAU?

One school at a time - We are committed to only having one school stay on site. So you are able to make the place your own, leave your things where you want them Set your own ethos, rules, boundaries etc. It also means we can tailor the course to your groups needs as opposed to a one size fits all approach.

The "real" outdoors" – All of our activities take place off-site. The unique situations that this creates as well as the sense of freedom and adventure really emphasises the development of skills such as independence, self esteem, risk taking, resilience, confidence, perseverance and being part of a team, to list but a few.

Behaviour

- Children need to respect each other and the staff. Need for sleep.
- We ask the children and parents to sign a 'pact' regarding conduct.
- The children are away 6 1/2 days.
 - leaving at about 9.00am
 - return at approx. 3.00pm.

Next Step

- Decision and deposit – Friday 7th June
- Another meeting to Spring 1 (Jan/Feb 26) to finalise plans, kit lists, etc



