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**South West Wiltshire Leisure Credits Scheme – Summer holidays 2021**

**Parent & Young Person Information Letter**

Despite the government easing various restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are still continuing to exercise caution as we know that the majority of the young people we work with remain unvaccinated. Also, we are a small staff team with a very busy summer and if any one of us is required to self-isolate there will be substantial closures to all our delivery as we do not have any staff available to cover. We are asking that all **young people continue to wear face coverings** on our transport and at any indoor session, as well as when they are in close contact to others when outdoors – we hope that all our leisure credits sessions over the summer holidays will be outdoors. Although not in school it would also be massively appreciated if all young people continue with their **twice weekly testing over the summer** as this will help reduce the risk of transmitting the virus. Please see our revised procedures for young people (published on our website) and complete the updated Covid-19 medical consent form.

We have planned a number of work sessions and reward opportunities during the school summer holidays (the July dates were included on our last Leisure Credits consent form, but I’ve added these on to this one too for ease) and there will be further reward opportunities during the Autumn term. We are able to fill all seats on our minibuses, as long as all young people are using hand sanitiser when they get on and off the bus as well as wearing face coverings for the duration of their journey. However, we still need to keep a bit of space on the bus for lunches, tools etc so we have a maximum of 13 spaces at the sessions over the summer. It is **essential that spaces are booked** for the sessions you wish to addend, however, **please only book into sessions that you know you can make and please let us know if you are no longer able to attend** a session as soon as possible. All participants will need to have completed a Seeds4Success annual consent form (the last version of these were issued in September 2020), so, if you have not yet completed one of these please do ask for one, or ideally, download it from our website [www.seeds4success.org.uk](http://www.seeds4success.org.uk) and complete it online and email it back to me at jaki@seeds4success.org.uk

Our Leisure Credits sessions will be running from **10am – 4pm from Mere Youth Centre** – this means that for those requiring transport pick-ups and drop offs will be before or after these times and they will be confirmed the night before. We are also running another project over the summer where we need to provide transport, therefore booking a seat on the minibus is more important than ever as we have extra children and young people to transport to Mere. We are able to provide lunches, and these will be made by a member of staff or a volunteer during the day. You are of course welcome to bring your own lunches and snacks too.

We will send a reminder text prior to each session as we are aware that things come up and young people are sometimes unable to attend at short notice, but it really is important that we have close to the maximum of 13 young people at all our sessions as our funding is reliant on this. We would like to book spaces for the reward activities as soon as possible so if young people could please identify what they would like to do – they can make a guess as to the number of credits they will earned based on how many sessions they are expecting to do over the summer – that would be really helpful. Once a reward trip is booked and paid for credits have been allocated and thus if a young person is then not able to attend, they will still have used the credits unless we are able to find a replacement. Credits can be saved for future trips and once young people have attended a minimum of 6 work sessions, they are also able to use 12 credits to get a Leisure Credits S4S hoodie. Please make sure you write on the consent form if you want a hoodie and if you want your name on it - we need to make a separate payment (£1 for a small name on the front or £3 for large name on the back or sleeve) or you can take it to Ram Sports in Wincanton yourself to get this done.

Please ensure the attached leisure credits consent form and an annual consent form (1st September 2020 – 30th September 2021) and the newly updated Covid-19 medical consent form (if you’ve not already done these) are completed and returned as soon as possible. Copies of all these forms are available on our website [www.seeds4success.org.uk](http://www.seeds4success.org.uk) and can be returned to jaki@seeds4success.org.uk to save printing and paper costs.

**Work sessions:**

We are planning to run the following work sessions during the school summer holidays, however, if there are changes in guidance due to the Covid-19 pandemic, or we have illness or enforced self-isolation amongst staff or young people, we may be forced to change these. We have a number of planned work tasks allocated to dates but these are subject to change. The sessions are likely to include a range of practical and conservation tasks such as removal of invasive species, clearing woodlands / repurposing felled timber, weeding military badges or community gardens, footpath clearance work, digging ditches, repairing/restoring gates, stiles, steps, fences, benches or play equipment, levelling or resurfacing footpaths, supporting with community events and practical tasks such as woodwork and tool repair. The dates allocated as work sessions are as follows:

**Tuesday 27th July – ragwort pulling, Mere**

**Thursday 29th July – ragwort pulling, Mere**

**Saturday 31st July – footpath clearance, Mere**

**Tuesday 3rd August – Clearance work, Stourhead**

**Thursday 5th August- Clearance work, Stourhead**

**Tuesday 10th August –** **Step Repair, Mere (tbc)**

**Thursday 12th August – Step Repair, Mere (tbc)**

**Saturday 14th August – Path Clearance - tbc**

**Tuesday 17th August – Path Clearance - tbc**

**Thursday 19th August – Path clearance - tbc**

**Tuesday 24th August –** **wood chopping and storing (for free firewood project), Summerleaze Estate**

**Thursday 26th August -** **wood chopping and storing (for free firewood project) and Rill Clearance, Fonthill Abbey (tbc)**

**Saturday 28th August - wood chopping and storing (for free firewood project) and Rill Clearance, Fonthill Abbey (tbc)**

Please be at the pick-up points by the following times unless you receive a text message with a revised time **(we will only go to pick up points if we are expecting young people to be there and we are juggling 2 projects that require transport and thus these are only rough guides)**: Wilton (Turning area just inside Sadlers Mead) 9:00am, Tisbury Cross 9:25am, Hindon 9:35am, West Knoyle 9:45am or meet at Mere Youth Centre at 10:00am. It may also be possible to organise pick-ups/drop off’s for Zeals and Kilmington, however this may be significantly earlier or later depending on the other transport requirements or commitments of staff (cleaning, shopping etc) and need to be requested in advance. We aim to finish all sessions in Mere around 4pm and drop young people back to pick up points after this time.

It is vital that you let us know which sessions you can attend and please only book into those you know you can attend so that we do not have wasted sessions. If for some reason, you are not able to make it to a session you are booked on to please make sure you contact me (Jaki) 07585723824 or Rose 07557334158 at the earliest opportunity. The charity needs to ensure that sessions are maximised and run at capacity so that money is not lost, and funding does not cease. Please assume you have a space on the sessions you have booked unless you are told otherwise.

All sessions will involve outdoor work so please ensure all young people wear old clothes with long sleeves, if possible, bring a waterproof jacket if it looks wet and a drink bottle with them. Even on days where the weather is warm, please wear long sleeves on tops and bottoms, or as a minimum bring long sleeved clothing with you as there are often brambles, nettles and other nasties that can irritate / hurt bare skin and suncream is also required. We will provide some food for the group although they are also welcome to bring their own snacks too if they prefer.

**Reward and Development Activities:**

**Friday 6th August - Dorset Adventure Park, Corfe – inflatable water-based obstacle course – 17 credits – max. 15 spaces, min.8**

This session will be booked as soon as we have an idea of numbers for it, and it will involve a 30-minute session on both of the 2 inflatable obstacle courses they have. Participants need to be able to swim 10m unaided and 50m with a buoyancy aid on. They will need to bring swimming stuff, a towel and a pair of wet shoes that can be worn in the lake. Wetsuits are optional and we will hire these for those who would like them. We will try and book a slot in the middle of the day and then we will have a picnic on site after we have all finished and got changed (we will provide the picnic food as part of the trip). Pick up times will be arranged once the trip is booked.

**Friday 20th August** – I am keeping this date free for a reward trip but have nothing booked yet – please indicate on the return slip what you would like to do. Example ideas and the cost in credits are:

Go Karting – 22 credits

Outdoor Activity Day – 20 credits

Basingstoke Leisure Park (2 activities from Ice Skating, Swimming – if the lagoon pool is fixed, bowling, cinema and we will feed you nasty fast-food lunch) – 20 credits

Feel free to make other suggestions too and if we can organise it, we will.

**Tuesday 31st August – Theme Park Trip, Alton Towers, Staffordshire – 30 Credits – minimum 10, maximum 14 spaces**

As we were unable to go to Alton Towers last year and being uncertain about whether there will be a fireworks event this year, in consultation with some of the young people it was agreed that I would put this in at the end of the summer. There is a risk that there will be long queues but hopefully some people will be focusing on returning to school. The Park opens at 10am and closes at 7pm and we aim to arrive before opening and stay until the end to allow maximum time for going on rides. This obviously means very early pick up times and a very long day.

Anticipated pick up times will range between 5:00 - 5:45am depending on who is coming and from where and they will be confirmed once tickets are booked. We ask that young people are at pick up points on time in the morning and we drop them home at the end of the day.

This reward activity includes a day ticket to the Alton Towers, and we will also provide a meal (unfortunately this is at a nasty food establishment on our way home around 9pm). Please ensure young people bring food for the day, a change of clothes and towel (essential if going on water rides), warm clothes and a coat/jacket. Due to the length of time that staff need to be driving and thus need some ‘time off’, young people will be expected to explore the theme park in groups, unaccompanied, with agreed meeting times and points and mobile phone contact, therefore only those aged 13 or over and who can be trusted to stay in groups with their peers will be able to go on this trip.

**Thursday 2nd September - trip to the Snowdome in Tamworth – 30 credits – minimum 6, maximum 12 spaces**

This reward activity needs to be booked and paid for in advance and therefore we need a definite commitment to this session by 6th Aug, so we can finalise the booking. It is great fun however does involve about 8-9 hours in a minibus! It will include 2 hours of group snowboarding tuition (6 per instructor). If your son/daughter/ward is a competent skier/snowboarder, they may be able to do ‘recreational skiing/snowboarding’ instead of the lesson, but parents/carers need to check the Snowdome website www.snowdome.co.uk for the recreational standard and inform me in writing that they meet this level and confirm that you are happy for them to ski / board on their own for 2 hours. Following the 2 hours of snowboarding / skiing all young people will have 30 minutes of tobogganing & 30 minutes of adrenaline tubing. Due to the length of the journey, we will stop on the way there and on the way back however we will only provide one meal (well nasty fast food so debatable if we should call it a meal!) and this will be on our return journey home. Young people will need to bring a packed lunch and a drink for during the day. Please ensure young people bring warm, long sleeved clothes and gloves for inside the Snowdome – it is real snow and therefore cold! They should also bring a complete dry set of clothes as they are likely to fall on the snow at some point during the afternoon and get wet!

**One for the future…. Friday 29th to Sunday 31st October – Outdoor Activities Residential, Caerhafod, nr. St Davids, Pembrokeshire – 45 credits – 12 spaces**

Spaces on this residential will be allocated in the first instance to young people aged 12-15 who have demonstrated good behaviour and a positive attitude at work sessions and have attended a minimum of 12 work sessions in the past 12 months or completed a minimum of 6 work sessions over the summer holidays (this can be peer leading at FUEL sessions if you are involved in that). Young people aged over 16 who meet these criteria will also be offered a space on this residential if we are able to fit them in. Activities will include Surfing, Sea Kayaking & Coasteering and separate consent forms will be issued for this trip. We anticipate leaving Southwest Wiltshire in the morning on 29th October returning around 9pm on Sunday 31st. Please indicate on the consent form whether you are available and would like to be considered for this reward opportunity. Further details, a kit list and an additional consent form will be issued at a later date.

**Additional Important Information:**

* **Young people will not be allowed to participate in this scheme unless the attached form has been signed by a parent/guardian and returned to a youth worker along with the current S4S annual consent form (1st September 2020-30th September 2021) and Covid-19 medical consent form. This is for reasons of your own health and safety, and our concern to see that these trips are properly organised and that we all have a good time. So, remember, no form returned, no go on the event organised. If you are 18 years or over, you may complete the form yourself, but it must still be returned.**
* **Seeds4Success provides 3rd party liability insurance on all activities, but we are unable to provide personal accident or injury insurance or insurance for personal possessions. If young people do bring valuables to sessions, they are responsible for their safe keeping.**
* **Due to limited seats in the minibus, we must restrict the number of spaces on sessions. Please ensure you complete the attached consent form as soon as possible and indicate which sessions you will be attending and list any future trip ideas you would like to see offered. If sessions do not have young people booked on to them, they will be cancelled, and staff will carry out other work instead. It may be possible to arrange transport from other locations within the Southwest Wiltshire area for some of the sessions so please contact me to discuss this if required. If young people wish to meet us at a work site this is also possible but please ensure I know you are coming so that I can ensure we have sufficient food and tools**
* **The credits system has been developed in consultation with young people and a full day will be scored out of a maximum of 12. The minimum you will get for turning up and doing an average amount of work on a day's session, is 4 credits, providing you do not do anything detrimental to the task or the group. Young people who work exceptionally hard and are supportive of peers and staff may earn closer to or the maximum.**
* **Once young people put their name down for a trip and have said they are going their ‘credits’ have been committed and cannot be refunded if they don’t turn up (unless we are able to fill their space at short notice).**
* **Due to the outdoor and dirty nature of the work, please ensure that young people wear old clothes, suitable footwear and bring sun cream if it is hot or a warm/waterproof jacket if it is cold/wet.**
* **We will transport young people from pick up points by minibus to the various locations mentioned if they cannot be accessed by walking. Some refreshments will be provided although young people may also want to bring drinks and a packed lunch with them.**
* **It is expected that all young people abide by the rules of Seeds4Success (stated on the annual consent form), the procedures for young people during the Covid-19 pandemic and the agreed ground rules for sessions. Any young people in breach of these will be asked to leave the session and parents/guardians will be required to collect them from wherever they are.**

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Jaki

Jaki Farrell

Charity Director

Mobile : 07585723824

Email : jaki@Seeds4success.org.uk

**South West Wiltshire Leisure Credits Scheme – Summer Holidays 2021**

**Parent Permission Form**

I give permission for my son/daughter/ward \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(name) to take part in the following Leisure Credits sessions / Activities: *(please tick*)

Work:

**Tuesday 27th July  Thursday 29th July  Saturday 31st July **

**Tuesday 3rd August  Thursday 5th August  Tuesday 10th August **

**Thursday 12th August  Saturday 14th August  Tuesday 17th August **

**Thursday 19th August  Tuesday 24th August  Thursday 26th August **

**Saturday 28th August **

Rewards:

**Friday 6th August - Dorset Adventure Park **

**Friday 20th August**   *please state preferred activity*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Tuesday 31st August – Alton Towers**  

**Thursday 2nd September – Snowdome**  *Please tick if your child is ‘recreational standard’ skiing/snowboarding (delete as appropriate)* 

Please tick if available from **29th – 31st October** and would like to go on the **residential** if selected 

Hoodies:

If you would like to use some of your credits to get a Seeds4Success Leisure Credits Team Hoodie, please tick what size you would like and state whether you would like a name and what size (and if so, what you want)

Large Kids  Small Adult  Medium Adult  Large Adult  Extra Large Adult 

I would like the name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ printed on my shirt.

I enclose £1 for this to be in small writing on the front 

I enclose £3 for this to be in large writing on the back 

I enclose £3 for this to be in large writing on the sleeve 

Please provide a mobile number that we can text pick up details to and say whose number this is e.g., young person, parent etc\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**PTO**

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| Please inform us of any changes to the information provided on the annual consent form: |
| Please provide emergency contact information for these sessions: |

I have completed a current annual consent form and a covid19 medical form, I understand I need to follow government guidelines on self-isolation, and I will notify Seeds4Success if my child or anyone they are in contact with have symptoms and they will not attend sessions if unwell. I have provided the most current medical information and an emergency contact number for this activity.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (parent / guardian) Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (parent / guardian)