



Year 4 Residential 2027

Wednesday 28th – Friday 30th April 2027

Parent and Carer Information Session

Tuesday 7th July 2026



Year 4 – Gordon Brown Residential

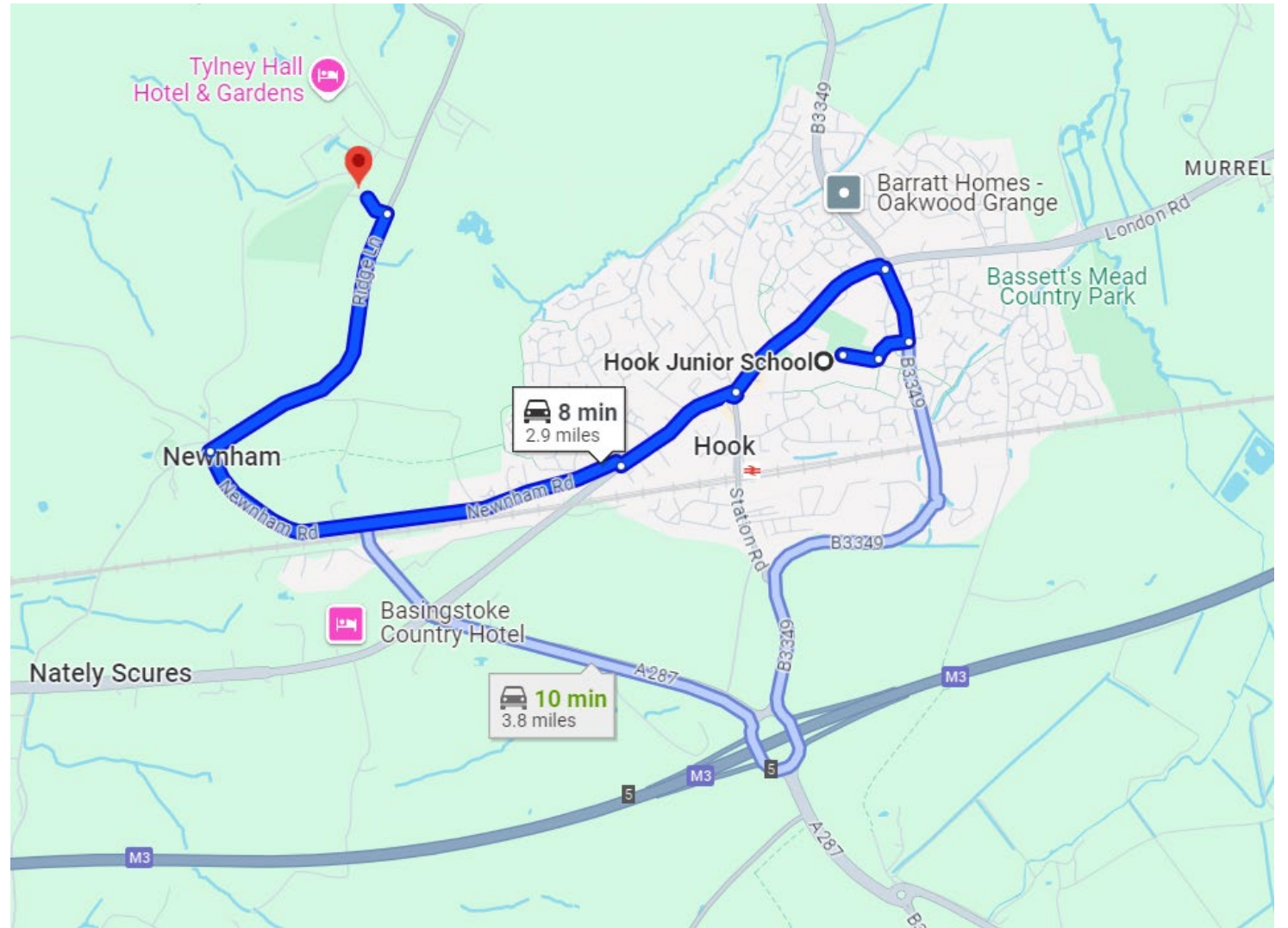
- The residential is an integral part of the Year 4 curriculum, designed to develop pupils' independence, confidence and resilience while preparing them for future experiences, including the Year 6 Residential.
- It supports both educational and personal development learning goals, providing opportunities for pupils to learn, grow and challenge themselves in a new environment.
- The carefully chosen local location allows pupils to experience the outdoors while keeping travel time and costs manageable.
- It provides engaging, hands-on learning experiences that extend and enrich learning beyond the classroom. Set within a 25-acre conservation area, the site offers a safe and natural environment.
- Children will take part in a range of exciting adventure activities that encourage teamwork, problem-solving and personal growth.



Location



More than just an outdoor
centre; inspiring children
since 1976



📍 Ridge Ln, Rotherwick, Hook, RG27 9AT, United Kingdom

Accommodation

During the residential, pupils will stay in one of two self-contained indoor accommodation blocks. Each block provides comfortable sleeping areas, shower and toilet facilities, and access to water stations located around the buildings.

- **The Main Building**
- Sleeps up to 60 pupils.
- Includes two dormitories with 24 beds each, plus two smaller rooms with 6 beds each.
- All beds are triple bunks.

- **The Shrubbery Building**
- Sleeps up to 66 pupils.
- Includes two dormitories with 33 beds each.
- All beds are triple bunks.

Both accommodation blocks are designed to provide a safe, comfortable and communal experience, helping pupils develop independence while being well supported by staff.

Accommodation and Safety

The accommodation is a short walk from the main office and reception area.

Children will stay in purpose-built buildings with dormitories sleeping up to 33 children.

Staff accommodation is located next to the children's dormitories, ensuring pupils are well supported throughout the residential.

We will have access to two separate accommodation buildings, with dedicated sleeping areas for girls and boys.

The site is secure, with 24-hour monitoring and support from GBC staff.





What will we be doing?

Timetable	Day One	Day Two	Day Three
Breakfast	Arrival from 10am Get settled into accommodation Meet the GBC Staff Site tour Meet the animals	Breakfast 7.30am	Breakfast 7.30am
AM		Activities 9.15am-12.15pm	Packing 8.15am-9am Activities 9.15am-12.15pm
Lunch	Lunch 12.30pm	Lunch 12.30pm	Lunch 12.30pm
PM	Activities – 2pm-5pm	Activities – 2pm-5pm	Depart from 2pm
Evening meal	Evening meal 5.30-6.30pm	Evening meal 5.30-6.30pm	
Activity	Evening Activity 7.30-8.30pm Bed time 9pm	Evening Campfire 7.30-8.30pm Bed time 9pm	



ADVENTURE
IN EDUCATION



1 CAR PARK 1

5 CHICKENS

9 CAR PARK 2

13 LOW ROPES COURSE

17 CLAY PIT

21 GOATS

25 SHRUBBERY

2 MAIN BUILDING / DINING HALL

6 RABBITS

10 IRON AGE ROUNDHOUSE

14 LASER GUN VILLAGE

18 ARCHERY RANGE

22 FIRE MAKING WOODLAND

26 TRIM TRAIL COURSE

3 OUTDOOR CINEMA

7 TUCK SHOP

11 CAMPING VILLAGE

15 DEN BUILDING

19 BEE KEEPING

23 POND DIPPING AREA

27 CAMP FIRE AREA

4 PIGS

8 PICNIC AREA 1

12 PICNIC AREA 2

16 HIGH ROPES / CLIMBING WALL

20 DONKEYS

24 GROWING GARDEN

28 CAMP FIRE AREA

29 CLASSROOM





Activities



During their stay, children will take part in a range of activities lead by qualified GBC instructors and supervised by HJS staff.

Activities:

High Ropes & Rock Climbing – Climb a rock wall and take on exciting high ropes challenges with instructor support.

Low Ropes Course – A series of platforms, beams, ropes and wires to balance and climb around.

Trim Trail Obstacle Course – Work in teams to race through a fun outdoor obstacle course.

Archery & Cordage Bracelet Making – Learn basic archery skills before making a simple bracelet to take home.

Fire Lighting & Campfire Cooking – Learn how to safely light a fire and cook popcorn over the campfire.

Blindfold Trail – In pairs, navigate a 300m blindfold trail through tunnels, barrels, beams and other obstacles using teamwork and communication.



Catering and mealtimes

During the residential, pupils will enjoy a fully catered lunch and dinner service, prepared onsite by the GBC catering team.

Breakfast is a self-service continental-style breakfast, giving pupils the opportunity to develop independence and make their own choices.

Pupils will eat together in either the indoor or outdoor dining facilities, depending on the weather conditions. Mealtimes provide an opportunity for pupils to relax, socialise and enjoy the residential experience together.



What to Pack

Please ensure your child brings the following items:

- **Sleeping and Toiletries**
- Single bed sheet
- Pillow
- Duvet or sleeping bag
- Towel
- Wash bag (including toothbrush, soap and other essential toiletries)
- Plastic bag for dirty clothing

Clothing and Footwear

- Suitable clothing for outdoor activities (please check the weather forecast before packing)
- Indoor footwear (sliders or slippers)
- Outdoor footwear (waterproof shoes or hiking boots)

Important Information

- No spending money is needed.
- Please do not send mobile phones, tablets, toys or other electronic devices.
- Sweets and additional drinks should not be brought on the residential.

Important message to Parents

Children only have a 60cm deep by 40cm height and wide lockers to store their belongings, so please ensure they stay within the suggested list below. Any additional belongings will not be able to be stored in the room.

GB GO
ADVENTURE
IN EDUCATION

KIT LIST – WHAT TO BRING

Please ensure that all items are named.

CLOTHING

Clothes are likely to suffer wear and tear and also get dirty and / or wet therefore you should bring several changes of old clothes for doing activities

 Your arms will need to be covered to do some activities

- ☐ x7 Long sleeved shirt / T-shirts
- ☐ x1 Waterproof jacket
- ☐ x2 Fleeces / jumpers

TOPS & JACKETS

- ☐ Trousers & Leggings but not jeans as they get heavy and cold when wet
- ☐ UNDERWEAR & SOCKS
-  Your socks will need to cover your ankles to do some activities
- ☐ CLOTHES FOR THE EVENING
- ☐ x1 set
- ☐ Suitable NIGHTWEAR
- ☐ x1

FOOTWEAR

- ☐ x1 pair of **TRAINERS**
- ☐ x1 pair of **WELLIES** for activities for watersports and
- ☐ x1 for indoor



OTHER ITEMS

- ☐ x2 TOWELS (x1 for showering)
- ☐ Plastic **DRINKS BOTTLE**
- ☐ Labelled **BIN BAG** for wet and dirty clothing
- ☐ **SLEEPING BAG** or **DUVET** and
- ☐ x1 **PILLOW & BED SHEET** (unless otherwise advised)
- ☐ **WASHBAG** including soap, shampoo, toothbrush and toothpaste



TRAVELLING IN THE ...

... SUMMER?

- ☐ Shorts
- ☐ Baseball hat / sun hat
- ☐ Sunscreen

... WINTER?

- ☐ Warm anorak or similar
- ☐ Hat and gloves

LOST PROPERTY

We recommend you write a list of what you pack to check before you come home. If you do leave anything behind, please contact your party leader who will contact GBC. Postage will be charged for returning lost items, which will be held for one month.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING

- Electronic devices
- Computer games
- Jewellery / valuables



Residential Details and Important Information

Dates -Wednesday 28th – Friday 30th April 2027 (*2 nights*)

Cost- The total cost of the residential is **£226 per child**. This includes:

- Two nights' accommodation
- Full board catering, including breakfast, lunch and dinner (with generous portions available to ensure children are well fuelled throughout their stay)
- A full programme of engaging day and evening activities
- Activities delivered by qualified and experienced GBC instructors
- Use of all GBC equipment and resources

Payment Information:

- A deposit of **£50** is required by **30th September 2026**
- Full payment is required by **22nd March 2027**
- Payment plans are available to support families with spreading the cost

Transport Arrangements:

- Parents and carers will be responsible for dropping children off and collecting them from the Gordon Brown Centre.

Further Information

We will hold another parent/carers meeting during the Spring Term 2027, where we will share further details and answer any questions ahead of the residential.

Safety, Safeguarding and Support

The Gordon Brown Centre is owned and operated by Brent London Borough Council and has been providing residential experiences for children for over 40 years.

Comprehensive safeguarding checks and risk assessments are completed by school staff and follow Hampshire County Council guidance to ensure all health and safety requirements are met.

All members of school staff attending the residential are trained in Emergency First Aid.

The lead adult will carry an emergency phone throughout the visit, ensuring that the school remains contactable while pupils are away.

We understand that families may wish to discuss payment arrangements, and a payment plan is available. Please contact the school office for further support.

Feedback

“The blindfold trail was so fun! We had to trust each other and work as a team. It made us laugh a lot!” – Year 4 child.

“I loved making my own fire and cooking popcorn over it then getting to eat it! It tasted so good.”- Year 4 child.

“I am so proud that I stayed away from home for the first time and my favourite part of the trip was making new friends. I didn’t want to leave!”- Year 4 child.

Feedback

“Dear Miss Powell I just wanted to send an email to express my gratitude to the school and especially the year 4 teachers, who have just returned from Gordon Brown Centre for the year 4 residential. I do not underestimate the logistics required for putting on such a trip and I am so grateful for all the experiences. XXX has had a fantastic time and I'm sure it will become a real highlight of her time at juniors. I know it's the first time you have run a residential for the lower years and I really believe it will be a huge benefit when we comes to the Year 6 week away. Please pass on my thanks to the Year 4 team and all the staff who went, and survived the night of no sleep! Many thanks”

“The trip was a huge success and from my viewpoint down to two things in particular: 1. Fantastic planning...the tone for which was set by the drop off. There's a difference between regimented and thought out and this was certainly the latter. Especially as it was the first residential for this year group (if I remember correctly). 2. Perhaps the most significant, care shown to account for and accommodate each and every child...knowing the children individually. The staff supporting and encouraging any and all to make the most of their unique experience. I'm passionate about these holistic learning opportunities (outdoor learning in particular) and it's amazing the school was able to provide it.”

“I'm sure you'll be inundated with messages today but I just wanted to pass on our thanks to yourself and the rest of the team for a wonderful residential. Please do share this sentiment with the other teachers to say a big thank you from us & XXX. XXX had an absolute blast and has told me so many lovely stories already. The time around the campfire was definitely his favourite bit and getting you to play the Lava Chicken song from the Minecraft movie has definitely made a core memory! Thank you for all you did during the trip and I hope everyone settles back in ok at school today for you as I'm sure you are tired too! Many thanks”

“Just wanted to take a moment to say thank you for arranging the Gordon Brown trip! My daughter loved it. She came home hot and tired, but absolutely loved the activities, the sleepover, the camp-fire building and I'm sure it will have grown her confidence enormously. Many thanks to your heroic team for spending a night away with so many energetic children!!”

“I just wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone involved with the Gordon Brown trip. I appreciate all the hard work, time and planning involved - some out of hours, to bring trips like these together. And then over the Monday & Tuesday, so many staff giving up their time & the inconvenience to their families with being away. It doesn't go unnoticed. It was a fantastic opportunity for them all and a real taster of what being away is like, before they head off to Marchants Hill in Year 6. The photo & video montages were lovely to watch, and they all looked like they were having so much fun. Lots of wonderful team work amongst the children.”

Questions



<https://thegordonbrowncentre.org.uk/>