



Additional Information for Group Leaders

The following information answers many commonly asked questions and gives ideas on how to make the most of your visit. If at any time prior to, during or after your visit you have any questions then please contact the Rangers.

Pre-visits

A pre-visit for all group leaders is strongly recommended. The Education Ranger can help you with the planning of your visit.

Coaches, minibuses and cars

The car and coach parks are well signposted as you come into Moors Valley.

The coach park is only one minute walk from the Visitor Centre.

Groups visiting must pre-book coaches and minibuses. Payment should be made in advance through the Information Point in the Visitor Centre; cash, cheques and credit cards are accepted. Cars do not need to book, payment is by a pay on foot system. We recommend that all groups visiting by coach bring along an additional vehicle if possible. This has proved very useful in the past when people have fallen ill or needed a hospital visit.

Coach and car parking for groups who have organised and paid for Ranger-led activities is free.

Cancellations

Please let us know as soon as possible if you will not be able to make a visit. If given one month's notice we will not make a charge, any less notice and we reserve the right to charge in full for the activities you have booked.

Safety

Please follow guidelines set by your Local Education Authority or parent organisation with regard to taking groups on trips and carrying out field work. All schools/groups are asked to make their own risk assessments for visiting the Park and will remain solely responsible for the behaviour and discipline of the group.

Accidents and First Aid

A first aid room is situated next to the Information Point in the Visitor Centre to deal with minor injuries. If the injured person cannot be moved to the Visitor Centre please try to contact the Rangers and a first aider will try to get to you. In the event of a more serious accident either call an ambulance direct or contact the Rangers who will then call out an ambulance.

We complete accident reports for all accidents requiring first aid treatment. In the event of an accident please follow any guidelines set by your governing body. The Rangers are not trained to administer any medicines, nor are they able to give out any medicines. For bites and stings we are only able to provide ice or water to relieve the symptoms; we are not able to administer any creams or sprays. If any children in your care have serious allergies or other medical problems please come prepared to deal with any situations that may arise.



Health Risks in the Countryside

We do not want to scare you; the risks of picking up an infection or disease from being in the countryside are very rare, but we do recommend a few simple precautions:

We recommend all cuts and grazes are covered with a waterproof plaster. We recommend hand washing at the end of all activities. We recommend long trousers for children and adults taking part in any outdoor activities. This will reduce the risk of cuts and grazes and picking up ticks. Children who have been carrying out activities in the Forest should check for ticks during the visit and also at the end of day. If you would like further information on ticks and Lyme Disease, please ask on booking.

Adders are quite common in certain areas of the Forest. Usually they will disappear out of sight as soon as they are disturbed which will be when you are still quite a way from them. But, if you do come across an inactive snake, please do not touch it, either with your hands or with a stick. Move the group away from the snake; if it is in a busy area please report it to the Rangers on your return to the Visitor Centre.

We recommend that children cover their skin up as much as possible, wear a sun hat and use sun cream on exposed skin. **Packing additional sun screen is highly recommended.** Please consult your local health authority if you require more information on sun care.

Please also ensure your group wear suitable clothing and footwear for the weather conditions.

Lost Children

Should you lose any children in your care please let the Rangers know as soon as you can so we can organise a search. Either tel 01425 470721, or report to the Information Point.

Picnic Areas and Refreshments

There is a lakeside picnic area between the play area and the lake and a forest picnic area near the start of the Play Trail. There are no undercover eating areas at Moors Valley. Groups visiting independently cannot be guaranteed any space undercover. It may be useful to check with your coach company if you are able to eat packed lunches on the coach or to ensure that the coach stays on site in case you wish to cut short your visit. The Restaurant in the Visitor Centre offers a wide range of hot and cold drinks, cakes, snacks and light lunches. Groups can be catered for if booked in advance. Please contact the Restaurant direct for details. Tel: 01425 470537.

We do have a drinking water fountain at the front of the Visitor Centre where bottles can be refilled.

The railway offers a selection of ice creams at Lakeside and Kingsmere station; please contact the railway direct if you would like to pre-order ice creams, tel: 01425 471415.

Litter

There are no litter bins at Moors Valley, please be prepared to carry all your litter with you and to take it home at the end of your visit.

Lost Children

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Lost Property

Please report or hand in any items lost or found to the Information Point in the Visitor Centre.

