

robin wood
we make

a really positive
DIFFERENCE
developing children

Maes y Nant

Our Maes y Nant activity centre is based in Marchwiel, a small town just outside Wrexham.

Maes y Nant dates back to the late Victorian era when it was built as a private house around 1870. Its name translates to 'house by a stream'. In 1959 Maes y Nant was sold and converted to a hotel with many of its original features being preserved to this day. The centre stands in 8 acres of grounds.

We have created a shallow sheltered lake next to the activity centre, which provides the ideal environment for adventurers to do Raft Building and Canoeing.

It is designed so that you are always close to the bank, but is big enough to run challenging activity sessions, developing new skills and having plenty of fun at the same time.

Our purpose built high activities building houses a Climbing Wall, Trapeze area and Crate Challenge room. We have a purpose built high wires Challenge Course and three different themed problem solving areas; Quest, the Dungeon and Piranha Pool - our staff team love developing these areas to ensure the challenges really capture your imagination when taking part.

Within our accommodation, you sleep in dormitories with between 2-12 beds. Maes y Nant can cater for up to 170 adventurers at a time.



• Manchester

• Birmingham

• Cardiff

The Activities

Our action packed trips consist of more activities over 3 days than most centres can provide in a 5 day course

Each activity typically lasts an hour and a ten minutes, this allows us to not only fit more in, but ensures the children remain focused and totally engaged throughout. Varying from puzzle solving and adventure activities, through to pure adrenaline rushes. Children are guaranteed to find something they will excel at. Activities may vary slightly according to weather conditions.



Archery

Following an introduction and demonstration, children receive individual coaching for their first arrows until they have the skills needed to get arrows on target.



Canoeing

Canoeing takes place on very sheltered shallow water, with the children close to the bank at all times. The Canadian canoes used are very stable and accommodate up to 3 children in each canoe.



Caving

Specially designed indoor caving systems at all of our centres are constructed for realism and adventure, but also to introduce the activity at just right the right level.



Challenge Course

Challenge Courses typically run through wooded areas of the grounds and incorporate many different challenges for the group.



Climbing

Purpose built indoor climbing walls create the safest possible environment for young people to be introduced to climbing.



Crate Challenge

Crate Challenge is a high activity with the emphasis on teamwork. Groups are given the challenge of building a crate tower together.



Dungeon

The group need to escape from the Dungeon; a place full of cobwebs, spooky noises, skeletons and other horrors. They can only do this through excellent teamwork.



Giant Swing

Adventure and teamwork combine on the Giant Swing. Two children wearing harnesses go on the swing together, and swing through the air!



Nightline

With blindfold in place the children put one hand on the rope and then follow it wherever it goes. It goes to all sorts of interesting places!



Piranha Pool

This session involves different 'crystal maze' type challenges, going back and forth across our 'Piranha Pool', without falling in.



Quest

There are a series of problems for each activity group to overcome and if they can manage to do this the Quest is achieved.



Team Challenge

In Team Challenge we get a number of activity groups together for various inter-group challenges.



Trapeze

Climb up to a platform around 5 metres above the ground, then leap off and catch a bar, which is dangling a short distance in front of you.



Zip Wire

Zip Wire is a real thrill activity, which is great for group support and encouragement, individual confidence and achievement.

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Useful Information and FAQs

Medical & dietary details

Medical and dietary information enables us to provide the best possible care for your child. Your school will ask you for details, please give us as much relevant information as possible, particularly if your child has any additional needs or requirements.

If your child has been off sick (or in contact with someone) with an infectious sickness bug before their trip, please discuss this with the school party leader. Robinwood has a 48hr clear policy and it is important that children with potentially infectious bugs do not attend a Robinwood centre.

Robinwood Meals

The food is good and there is plenty of it! As well as toast and cereals we always provide a cooked breakfast. At lunch we typically provide wraps, sandwiches, fruits and yogurts. We provide evening meals such as pasta bolognese, pizza and curry. More hot food and drinks are available over winter time. Break time snacks are provided and additional fruit is always available. There is always a vegetarian option and we regularly cater for special diets such as coeliac disease (gluten free), lactose free, dairy free and halal. Please let your school know in advance of any dietary needs. We aim to provide healthy meals that will appeal to the children in order they get the energy intake they need to fuel their three days at Robinwood.

What is your safety record?

We have an excellent safety record over 25 years of operation and currently more than 40,000 visiting pupils each year. All of our activities take place in safe secure environments that are appropriate and provide a safe introduction to adventure activities for 7-11 year olds.

What checks do you carry out on your staff?

All Robinwood staff are subject to Enhanced DBS checks (Disclosure and Barring Service) and suitable references. A DBS check is carried out periodically throughout all employees' careers.

Do different schools mix together?

It is likely that other schools will be present and you will see them occasionally at break times, but the children are kept busy with little opportunity to mix. Schools are allocated dormitories and dining rooms for exclusive use.





Useful Information and FAQs

What are your staffing levels?

We feel that good levels of supervision from a high quality staff team are vitally important for the success of Robinwood courses. When centres are operating we typically have 3 instructors for every 10 children.

What happens outside the activity times?

Children are supervised by Robinwood staff at all times throughout their stay. Children sleep in dormitories with all bedding provided and toilets close by. Shower times are built into the groups' timetable.

What are the educational benefits?

The benefits are many and varied, with curriculum links to all of the activities. We have an additional information sheet (available to the party leader) detailing learning objectives and outcomes, to show how a Robinwood course more than satisfies the outdoor and adventurous activities requirements of the national curriculum. All centres hold the Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) quality badge.

Developing Qualities: We have identified 12 qualities that children can develop whilst at Robinwood, focusing on 6 of these for each activity and 2 key qualities chosen by the teachers which are a focus throughout the trip. You can learn more about the 'Qualities We Develop' on our website.

Can you cater for children with additional needs?

We are committed, in so far as is possible, to a policy of inclusion and are keen for as many children as possible to benefit from a Robinwood course. We, however, have to acknowledge that we are not specialist providers for children with additional needs or physical disabilities. We will look at the needs of the individual child and will discuss options as to provision and participation with the party leader.

Any other questions?

We work closely with the schools' party leader and provide them with a lot of information about the course through their School Dashboard. Please contact your school for most enquires. For general information about Robinwood then please visit our [website](#) or social media outlets.