

Dangerous Camps Frequently asked questions

How do I book?

Please return a completed application form together with payment* to Rockbrook Park School. Application forms can be downloaded from the school website (see Activities section www.rockbrook.ie) or posted out to you (telephone 01-4933204 and leave your name and address or email summer@rockbrook.ie).

Payment options

1. Payment online together with online booking – **open from 2 May.**
2. Payment by cheque to **Rockbrook Park School** or by cash.

If paying directly to the Rockbrook Park School account please use Summer + the boy's name as the reference.

Our details: BIC: AIBK IE2D IBAN: IE21 AIBK 9332 9535 6483 73.

(No card payments are accepted at the school.)

Previous campers and friends booking through them can avail of our 'all payments on arrival' policy, so they have no booking fee or deposit to pay, but they must book in advance.

For others, the minimum payment with the application is one week's camp fee. You may also pay the full cost of the camp when booking (e.g. 2, 3 or 4 weeks together).

If a person is unable to attend the camp then a **full refund of the camp fee will be made, less a maximum of €20 booking deposit** (for very late cancellations).

Can I pay all at once?

Yes you can pay the full amount at booking. **When online booking commences you must pay the total payment up front.**

Otherwise the minimum amount payable by a family at booking stage is the cost of one week's camp (cheques payable to Rockbrook Park School). The payment, less a maximum of €20 booking deposit (applicable only to late cancellations), is fully refundable, should the child be unable to attend. Very few people drop out after deposit stage, so this payment system is easier and clearer for parents and it cuts down considerably on our camp administration. Any balance on the camp fee is payable on the first day of the camp.

What is the Camp fee?

A boy attending one week of the camp pays €105. If he does a second or subsequent week of any camp he pays an additional €95 per week. If his brother attends, he pays €95 per week.

So, for example, two brothers each attending one week of the Dangerous Outdoor Camp and one week of the Science Camp pay €105 + €95 + €95 + €95 = €390. If both boys are using the camp bus then an additional fee of €25 per boy per week is also due.

When is the full fee payable?

At least one week of the camp fee is payable on booking (except for past campers – see above). The balance of any fees due are payable on the first day of your son's Camp. **If booking online (after 2 May) then full fee must be paid with the booking,**

Does the boy have to have any connection with Rockbrook?

No. The Camp is open to all boys in the 8-12 year age range. Places are awarded on a first-come basis.

How will I know my son will have a place on the Camp?

Based on previous years' experience the camps fill up during May/June and the later camps may have places available on demand. However the growing success of the camps makes it difficult to predict what will happen. All applications received are guaranteed a camp place unless we notify you otherwise. **If you have booked then you have a place UNLESS you hear otherwise**. So, the Camp will generally have no reason to be in touch with you before commencement. If you are in doubt, please email us and we will respond.

With **online booking**, once your booking is accepted you are guaranteed a place.

How do I know if there are any changes in camp plans?

If there are changes we need to communicate, then we will get in touch with you. Check the Rockbrook website www.rockbrook.ie regularly. Necessary changes during the camp will be texted to you, if you provide a contact text number. Email addresses are also very helpful to us for relaying more complex communications. Please write email addresses as clearly as possible on the application forms.

Will my son be able for the challenges of the Outdoor Camp?

The Camps are an age-appropriate challenge for boys. The boys are kept busy all day and will be tired when they get home. The boys will be in age appropriate groups and will carry activities at different levels.

Can older boys attend the camp?

The upper age limit is now 12 years.

What are the bus arrangements?

A school bus is available to collect and return boys to the camps at an additional fee of €25 per week. Payment for the bus should accompany the camp fee.

On the application form, parents are asked to indicate a landmark collection point near their home where the boy can be collected. A bus with the Rockbrook/ Dangerous Camp name in the front window will pull up at the designated stop at the designated time.

The bus follows a traditional route around Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Ballinteer, Leopardstown and more locally. A bus may run from Naas also on some weeks. **The likely/planned routes and times are posted below with this information**. The route may vary a little from week to week (in response to bookings) so it will confirm times a few days before the camp.

On the Thursday of the week before your son's camp commences you should check the website for the bus route/times. You **may** also be emailed or telephoned by the camp to confirm the collection time at the stop. Boys should be at the stop five minutes before the due time, as the bus cannot idle at the stop. We cannot guarantee exact return times, and can only be approximate, so please ensure your collection arrangements are clear.

Is there an advantage in using the bus?

Campers enjoy the sense of independence and adventure that comes with taking the bus to and from the camp. However, parents need to ensure that children can manage their own way home from the collection and drop-off points. The camp can only provide approximate bus drop-off times as it often takes a few days for the timing of routes to settle.

What happens if my son is not using the bus?

Parents should bring the boy for the 10 am camp start and should be in the school to collect the boy at 3 pm. Children under 12 should be instructed by parents to remain with camp leaders until the parent comes to claim the boy. The boys will usually be in the area of the front pitches or in the astro-pitch area. A parent should not ask the boy to wait at the gate or in the school car-park, as this may cause confusion for the staff caring for him.

What do campers need to bring?

On the Outdoor Camp, campers are going to get wet and dirty on some or most days. Therefore, a small bag with a change of clothes (preferably old clothes!), spare runners/trainers and a towel is usually required each day. On the first day please bring a change of clothes. A draft plan for the week will usually be given to campers, so that they have some idea of the plan each day (although this can often change depending on the weather conditions).

On the Science Camp, campers may be asked to bring a change of clothes on some days or occasionally bring some household materials to assist in experiments (plastic bottles, foods etc).

All campers should also bring a packed meal (sandwiches, fruit) and a drink with them. On some days, there will be the option of light hot-food available in the school tuck-shop (e.g. hot dogs, pizza) at a reasonable cost.

Campers **should not bring valuables** (including good phones, music systems etc) with them as the Camp cannot guarantee the safety of such items.

Are there any camp activities for parents or siblings?

Yes. During the camps (weather permitting), parents may be invited to come with siblings for a cup of tea at 2 p.m. On those occasions picnics are welcome on the school lawns area. If such events are happening they will be advertised on website (www.rockbrook.ie) or facebook page (facebook.com/RockbrookParkSchool)

How will the Camp contact us should there be a change in plans?

Parents are asked to supply a mobile phone number. If absolutely necessary, short camp announcements or alerts will be texted to parents on this number. Parents should supply an email address (on the application form) where possible as it can ease communication considerably.