

# ATTENDING COMMON GROUND

A step by step guide for new  
groups



## COMMON GROUND 2022

### GETTING STARTED

- Find your local region [here](#) and get in touch - many have local events so you can get to know nearby groups. Plus we aim to send a representative from Common Ground to any big events, so you can meet us, learn more and contribute any ideas
- We can match you up with a more established, ideally local group if needed. Email [info@commonground.camp](mailto:info@commonground.camp) to enquire about this
- Get in touch with DFs to see if any live nearby who have moved for university/work and don't have a district. Talk to them about whether they would like to come to camp, run activities at group nights, join in with fundraising etc
- (ongoing) See ideas for where to apply for grants, [here](#). This is a really good way to secure tents and other equipment, and a contribution towards camp fees. Support and sample applications are available from Common Ground

### NOV- JAN

- Begin to use something from the CG activity pack in a group night monthly, to build interest and knowledge. 'A Day in the Camp' is a good one to start with
- Circulate an attendance form to get an idea of numbers and gather donations (with a suggested amount of the camp fee) from parents/carers\* (see end of section)
- Apply on [Common Ground website](#) to attend the camp. This means that we register your application and you give a broad estimate of participant numbers
- Create a confirmed booking for at least some of your participants before the early booking deadline on **1 December**
- Pay a 50% deposit by the **1 December** deadline, in order to save £5 / participant. You don't have to know who exactly is coming yet. You can hold places with 'Venturer 1', 'Elfin 1' etc
- Do an inventory of what equipment you own collectively or individually. What is missing? Is the equipment in good condition or does it need upgrading?

## COMMON GROUND 2022

- Decide how else you might raise funds as a group, beyond grants. Car boot sale? Cake sale?
- Consider doing a mini campaign "Give a young person you know the gift of Common Ground". It could help someone make the perfect gift!
- Start planning a weekend camp for the spring, even if it's with just a couple of families. This will bring your group together, give everyone skills for Common Ground, and build excitement about camping with Woodcraft Folk!
- Publicise the date and get volunteers to organise the activities, food and equipment
- If you don't have enough volunteers, equipment etc, have a look at national/regional residentials and camps your young people may be able to join [here](#)

\*You can claim gift aid on donations, but not money given specifically towards an individual's camp fee. You can also get gift aid from subs as long as this is done legitimately. Info on how [here](#)

## FEB-APR

- Check out the new Info-Pack (Version 2), and circulate it to parents and carers
- Once you know who you'll be camping with at Common Ground, start speaking to the others in your village. Are you close enough for the young people to meet? Could you setup a penpal system? Share videos or introductions?
- If someone in your group has complex access needs, update the booking system and contact [info@commonground.camp](mailto:info@commonground.camp) early, as this may take careful planning together
- Find out if your village has international campers and start sharing culture and ideas for how you will camp together
- Take part in FREE risk assessment training, available online with Woodcraft Folk
- Ensure all your volunteers will still have in-date DBS certificates at camp and start renewing where necessary (deadline **2 May**)
- Be clear on everyone in your group having a valid WcF membership until mid-August as a minimum
- Confirm your exact participants, collate their info (accessibility, dietaries, emergency

# COMMON GROUND 2022

	<p>contacts), and add these on the booking system by <b>2 May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pay the remaining camp fees by <b>2 May</b> deadline</li> </ul>
<p><b>MAY-JUL</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Info pack Version 3 and more programme content publicised - share with your group and get excited!</li> <li>• Check the adult:child ratio in your group (together with others in your village).                      Minimum:                      1 adult to every 3 children aged 0 - 5                      1 adult to every 5 children aged 6 - 9                      1 adult to every 8 children aged 10 - 12                      1 adult to every 10 children aged 13 - 15                      We recommend at least <b>2 adults / group</b></li> <li>• Consider recruiting a couple more adults, so it is easier to share the responsibilities and have adequate cover. Parents and local DFs may be interested</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take part in Pre-camp <b>27-29 May</b> and consider it a mini trial run of how your group will arrange themselves during Common Ground. See the site, meet other groups, agree joint ways of camping, contribute ideas and enjoy some tasters of camp programme!</li> <li>• Liaise with parents about final arrangements for camp - plan travel, manage expectations, be clear on medical needs, kit list and emergency contacts</li> <li>• Liaise with the other groups in your village to plan how your village will be run</li> <li>• Think about getting some media attention for your group's big project. It can help to recruit more members, raise your profile and make the children feel proud to be in the news!</li> <li>• Do final checks for equipment needs</li> </ul>
<p><b>29TH JUL - 8TH AUG</b></p>	<p><b>WELCOME TO CAMP!</b></p>

# COMMON GROUND 2022

## Where to now?

- The best way to stay in the loop is via our social media. We have a [Facebook group](#), and Instagram and Twitter accounts @CGCamp2022. Like/join/follow if you don't already and encourage your members to do so as well!
- If you have any questions our [Info-Pack](#) or [FAQs](#) are a good place to start. You can also get in touch with the Common Ground staff team, Pauliina and Millie, on [info@commonground.camp](mailto:info@commonground.camp)

