

Somerset DofE Gold residential – Kilve Residential July 2026 Information and kit list



Introduction

Thank you for signing up/ enquiring about for our Gold Residential at Kilve Court, Somerset

Kilve Court

Kilve Court is a beautiful grade 2 listed building in Kilve Somerset, TA5 1EA. We are part of Somerset County Council – Support Services for Education and run residential for all age groups over the year. Alongside various day events. The residential will be held onsite at Kilve and use the fantastic facilities and location during the week.

Arrival

Arrival time is 12pm on Monday 20th July 2026. We will provide a packed lunch on arrival and have a series of introduction and getting-to-know-you sessions planned, to ensure that the group gels from day one.

Departure

Departure time is 3pm on Friday 24th July 2026,

Cost

The residential costs £280 per person

Payment

Full payment is due at the time of booking to secure a place on the residential. Places are booked and paid for through the SSE Outdoors website [Holiday Camps \(sseooutdoors.co.uk\)](https://sseooutdoors.co.uk)

Transport

Anyone wishing to come by train – we will provide pick up at Taunton Station at 11.30am on 20th July. And a return to Taunton station for 3.30pm on 24th July.

Accommodation

You will stay indoors in our internal accommodation, sharing with others on the residential (age and genders will be split for safeguarding). With the lifting of restrictions, we can now have multiple people per room, but will still spread out where possible.

Shower and toilets are onsite

There is the opportunity to charge mobile phones and other devices on site – but you'll be too busy to worry about this!

We will provide bedding for you

Food

We will provide all meals, snacks and drinks through the week. There is a choice every day and you are guaranteed to be well fed. We can cater for all food intolerances – you just need to let us know

You don't need to bring additional food with you, although if you're a budding Star Baker and want to dazzle us with your brilliance, we won't say no!

Footwear

Kilve Court is fairly flat and level, but it is mainly grass so will be affected by the weather; please think about this when deciding what to bring.

You will be stood up for long periods, will probably walk quite a distance without realising it! Sturdy, comfortable shoes or trainers will therefore be required during the day (walking boots are ideal if you have them).

You will definitely be doing sports / adventurous activities, so casual / sports kit is ideal with trainers

Flip flops/slippers are good for 'down time' and to wear indoors at the centre as outdoor shoes will get muddy!

What to consider bringing

We will be outside most of the day, whatever the weather, so clothing should be lightweight and covering if it's sunny, waterproof if it's wet and warm if it's cold. Keep an eye on the weather forecast!

Kilve Court is a family venue so please don't bring items of clothing that are see-through or have offensive slogans.

Please avoid jeans, especially if wet weather is forecast. Hopefully the sun will be shining but clothes for all eventualities are better – so layers are perfect

You will be working be volunteering with the Dunster Castle team on one day – so please wear clothes that can get dirty etc. As we'd hate you to ruin a decent item of clothing! Hiking boots are ideal footwear for the volunteering activity and trainers around site.

We also have a lake onsite – so could do some water-based activities like paddle boarding – please bring appropriate clothing for this, as you may get wet!!! If you have a wetsuit, feel free to bring it. Also, old shoes that can get wet for use on the lake.

Money

We don't recommend carrying large amounts of cash and as you are going to be well fed onsite- you shouldn't need any additional money.

Activities

You will be involved in volunteering activities and also a number of different adventurous activities from mountain biking, archery, mountain boarding and abseiling to paddle boarding and kayaking. So, it will be an active and busy week for all involved – including our fantastic SSE Outdoors staff

Supervision

There will be SSE Outdoors staff onsite to support you 24/7. They are used to working with all age groups of visitors and are guaranteed to ensure that you have fun whilst onsite

What you will be doing

You will be doing fun activities on and off site through the week – please see the draft plan for an idea as to how the day will look. It is very flexible, and we can amend as per the group's requirement. You will also visit Dunster Castle on the Wednesday (TBC), where we will volunteer with their staff for the morning and then get to walk around the house and grounds in the afternoon.

Kit list – please bring with you

Utensils

Re-fillable water bottle

Footwear

Sturdy shoes or trainers

Old pair of trainers to get wet during water-based activities

Flip flops or slippers – for indoor use

Trainers or casual shoes

Walking boots/shoes a must for the Dunster Castle Day

Clothing

Waterproof coat

Waterproof trousers

Fleece or hoodie (more than one if forecast is cold)

3 or 4 t-shirts/tops

2 or 3 pairs of shorts/leggings/tracksuit bottoms (depending on weather forecast)

Sleepwear

Underwear

Socks

Items to wear in the lake for paddle boarding / canoeing etc

Layers are good and clothes you don't mind getting wet / muddy!

Swimsuit

Other items

Sun Hat

Toiletries, wipes etc

Sanitary products

Towel (microfibre or easy dry preferred) X2 – one for showering and other in case of outdoor water activities!

Phone charger

eDofE number ready for the assessor

Spending money for local shop - there is a £5 limit for card use

Day bag (small rucksack) for carrying valuable items, extra clothing etc

Torch and batteries

Suntan lotion

Wetsuit if you have one

Monday	
AM	DofE team / SSE Outdoors on site setting up
12 pm	Participants arrive – sandwiches on arrival
1.30 to 2.30pm	Initial briefing re H&S/ C19 / and room allocation.
2.30 to 3pm	Week plan outline. Activity Discussion
3.00 to 5.00	Group Activity – Team Building, getting to know one another
Evening	Free time, food Organised activity – Orienteering
Tuesday	
8.30 am	Breakfast
9.30 – 13.00	Adventurous Activities
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 17.00	Adventurous activities – Water Sports
Evening	Food and free time Organised activity – Evening walk to Kilve Beach
Wednesday	
8.30am	Breakfast
9.30 – 16.00	Dunster Castle – volunteering and then visit - transport minibuses from Kilve
	Lunch – Packed Lunch
Evening	Food and free time Organised activity – Archery
Thursday	
8.30am	Breakfast
9.30 – 13.00	Adventurous Activities - High Ropes
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch

14.00 – 17.00	Adventurous activities – Climbing Wall and Leap of Faith
Evening	Food and free time Campfire at ODC Firepit – campcraft
Friday	
8.30am	Breakfast
9.00 – 10.00	Clear Bedrooms
10 – 13.00	Adventurous Activities
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14:00- 15:00	Group get together – week de brief, feedback forms
15:00	Leave / Pick up by parent, carer, guardian, taxi

We will be visiting Dunster Castle – to do some onsite volunteering in the morning and then have some free time, to see the estate / house and area.

Activities such as Mountain Boarding, Mountain Biking, High Ropes, Climbing, Abseiling, Paddle boarding may be chosen by the group, please take a look at the SSE website for more information about what is on offer at Kilve.

<http://www.sseoutdoors.co.uk/our-centres/kilve-court/>

Evenings – group activities

Fun and active week for all involved – instructors and Young People alike. Open to ideas and very flexible to accommodate requests, there is a lot to offer onsite and we will do our best to accommodate all activities and requests whilst working with the group through the week.

