

compass camps

Being a Tent Leader

The goal of compass camps is for young people aged 11-17 come to know Jesus Christ and accept Him as their saviour, and grow deeper in their relationship with Him. While there are lots of dimensions to the tent leader role, it all comes back to this simple core goal.



As a tent leader, you will be allocated a "tent group" of young people (campers), all of the same gender as you, and all of roughly the same age. There'll be roughly 4-6 campers in your tent group, and you'll be leading the group with another leader. The general role is one of support to all campers, but particularly those in your tent group. For some of them, it may be their first time away from home, so emotional as well as practical support might be necessary. You'll also be supporting them spiritually as you guide them through the week's teachings, but you'll be given plenty of support yourself with this.

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet
of those who bring good news.... Isaiah 52:7



A day on camp

Morning:

- 7:30 **Wake up whistle** - Campers to wake up, go to the toilet and have a shower if they want to.
- 8:15 **Quiet time** - altogether in the hall, a time of personal bible reading.
- 8:30 Make packed **lunch**, then have **breakfast**.
- 10:15 **Morning game** - to get the campers woken up, active and ready for the day.
- 10:30 **Morning meeting** - the main teaching session, with a talk and worship among other things.

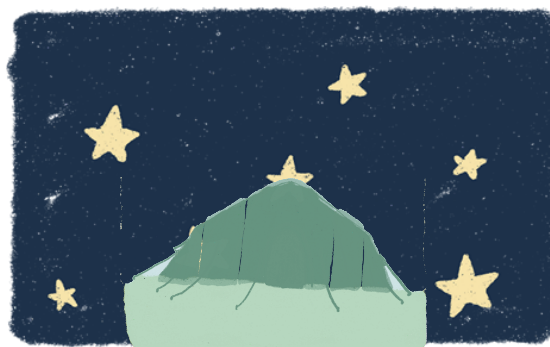


Afternoon:

- 12:00 **Activity** - outdoor adventure activities such as Rock Climbing, Ghyll Scrambling, Kayaking, Mountain Biking etc, run by external instructors. We go on a walk on one of the days, and go to a local town on another. At some point, campers will eat their packed lunch.
- 16:30 **Back to camp** - some free time for campers to go into Windermere town, have a shower, or play games on the field.

Evening:

- 18:00 **Dinner** - prepared by our amazing camp cooks!
- 19:30 **Evening activity** - some sort of game, craft or quiz, related to the camp theme.
- 21:00 **Ready for bed** - campers to brush teeth, go to the toilet, and get into their tents.
- 21:30 **Tent prayers** - small group bible study, based on the week's bible teaching, and going deeper into the morning's talk.
- 22:00 **Leader's meeting** - leaders to debrief about the day, share prayer points for campers from tent prayers, and pray. Short briefing about the following day.



Leader responsibilities

Before camp:

- ✦ Attend as many online planning meetings as possible
- ✦ With the guidance and support of other leaders, read through the teaching passages and be prepared to lead tent prayers
- ✦ Maybe plan a game or activity for the campers if needed
- ✦ Turn up to camp on Friday, the day before campers arrive, and help with the setting up of tents and decorations

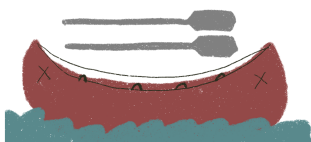


During camp:

- ✦ Lead a tent group with another leader, which will involve joining in with your tent group during games and activities, being there for tent prayers, and generally looking out for your campers and supporting them through the week
- ✦ Be present and involved in all morning meetings, and attend the leaders meeting at the end of the day after tent prayers
- ✦ Attend the Leader's meeting after the morning meeting, where we discuss the teaching, ask questions and prepare for tent prayers in the evening
- ✦ Lead tent prayers in the evening
- ✦ Lead any games or activities that you planned before camp
- ✦ Oversee one of the "campers chores" teams, including cleaning toilets, serving dinner, clearing up, and setting up the room. This DOES NOT mean that you will be doing those jobs, it means that you'll be making sure that the campers are doing it properly
- ✦ Be "on-patrol" on one evening of camp for roughly 30 minutes after the campers have gone to bed, ensuring that they are not being disruptive and are trying to get to sleep
- ✦ Look out for the general welfare of the campers, and report any concerns to Josh or Matt

After camp:

- ✦ Help to pack up the tents and tidy the sports centre on the Saturday
- ✦ Attend a post-camp online review meeting a few weeks after camp is over to share your thoughts and feedback



Questions you might have

✦ Will I be sleeping in a tent with the campers?

For safeguarding reasons, we can't have adults sleeping in the same tent as children. So you will sleep in a leader's tent with other leader's of the same gender. If you have your own tent that you want to bring, that is fine, but we have leader's tents.



✦ Will I be doing the activities like rock-climbing and ghyll scrambling?



That's up to you! There are often spare places available for leaders to go on the activities, so you can if you want to. Depending on numbers, you might not be able to go on all the activities, but the alternative is often a hot chocolate in a local café which is also great.

✦ I don't know my bible very well, am I really good enough to be a leader?

Definitely! Some of our leaders are real bible geeks and have theology degrees, and some of our leaders didn't even know Jonah was a book in the bible (see if you can find out who). If one of the campers asks you a question about the bible teaching, it's totally fine to say "I don't know", and then go and talk to one of the speakers on camp who might know.



You might have heard before that leaders should be FAT, meaning they should be:

- Faithful - you have faith in Jesus Christ and know Him as your saviour
- Available - you are free and available the week of camp
- Teachable - you accept that you don't know everything (none of us do!) and you're willing to learn

So long as you're FAT, you'll be a great leader.

What to do now

First of all, if you have any more questions, please get in touch with Josh by emailing him at josh.smith@compasscamps.org.

We'd also encourage you to pray about whether this is something you want to do and whether it's something God wants you to do, as well as seek advice from people like church pastors and other people close to you.

If you decide that being a Compass Camps leader is for you, brilliant! Go ahead and sign up on the Compass Camps website - www.compasscamps.org. Go to 'booking forms' at the top of the page, then click 'leader booking'.

The cost of camp for leaders is reduced to £150 (campers pay £235). This covers the cost of accommodation at the venue, food, transport and activities. It also covers the cost of a DBS check, which we require all leaders to do. This is a criminal records check that shows that you are able to work with children.

We are really excited about meeting new leaders, and can't wait to see how God is going to use you and your skills on camp this year.



@compasschristiancamps



www.compasscamps.org



@compasscamps



josh.smith@compasscamps.org

