

BALTINGLASS

OUTDOOR EDUCATION & TRAINING CENTRE



Baltinglass Outdoor Education Centre

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BALTINGLASS OUTDOOR EDUCATION & TRAINING CENTRE

INTRODUCTION

On behalf of Baltinglass Outdoor Education & Training Centre it gives me great pleasure to introduce our new Brochure.

Outdoor Education fulfils a vital role in fulfilling Kildare & Wicklow Education Training Board's mission to provide high Quality educational opportunities for all learners.

This brochure outlines the range of Outdoor Programmes which continue to deliver high quality learning to participants drawn from Primary, Post Primary schools and Youth Service's.

Baltinglass Outdoor Education & Training Centre prides itself on being responsive to the changing environmental, community and educational needs. Outdoor Education programmes at the centre are frequently adapted to reflect these requirements.

Excellence in Business Awards 2016 our centre is delighted to be the recipient of the "**Outdoor Education Award 2016**" from the **Public Sector Magazine**; this award recognises outstanding service continuity and our commitment to excellence as a provider of Outdoor Education.

I would like to wish the centre and all its staff and visitors a successful a safe year.

Paul Scott
Centre Director
Baltinglass Outdoor Education & Training Centre



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ABOUT THE CENTRE

The Outdoor Education Centre is situated in the centre of Baltinglass. The town itself grew around an ancient Cistercian Abbey (founded in 1154).

Baltinglass lies on the N81, only 36 miles from Dublin City Centre.

We occupy what was originally the old vocational technical school, now modified to cater for the needs of our student visitors.

The refurbishment and renovation of the building was funded by Co. Wicklow Vocational Education Committee and F.A.S.

The Centre is open throughout the year.

FACILITIES

We are fortunate to have most of the natural amenities required for our activities right on our doorstep.

Our main **Canoeing** sessions take place on the Slaney River only minutes from the Centre.

Two Centre mini-buses are available to take groups to activities based away from the Centre e.g. river trips, hill walks and overnight camps.

Our **Orienteering** sessions take place in the nearby Tuckmill Woods where routes of varying degrees of difficulty are in place for all levels of participant.

Our **Rock Climbing & Abseiling** sessions take place on our purpose built Climbing/Abseiling Tower.

The centre has an excellent purpose built **High Ropes Course and Zip Line**.

Ecology and Initiative Games take place in the Lords Wood just a short walk away.

The Centre also has a purpose built **Archery range**.

Accommodation is available for 45 participants. The accommodation consists of two large dormitories.

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CATERING

The Centre has a large dining room.

All meals are provided and a wide and varied menu is on offer. We are also happy to cater for any special dietary needs.

Please inform us of your requirements at the time of booking.

SAFETY

The staff at the OETC are fully committed to ensuring that all safety standards are adhered to during activities.

Our Instructors are fully qualified and comply with all N.G.B. guidelines and have been fully vetted before commencing employment with us.



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TRANSITION YEAR DISCOVERY PROGRAMME

The following programme is specifically tailored to facilitate an activity-based module for transition year students and their teachers. At B.O.E.T.C. we have selected our courses to enable T.Y.P. students to develop new skills both personal and technical in an outdoor setting.

Throughout the experience the staff at the centre will place equal emphasis on teamwork and on each student identifying their own strengths and weaknesses. By encouraging each participant to overcome challenges the Discovery Programme can reveal hidden talents hitherto unsuspected.

CO-ORDINATORS OF T.Y.P.

On completion of our 1 and 2 day residential programmes we provide all students with an opportunity to evaluate their experience. A short workbook is available to teachers who wish to encourage students to elaborate on the experience gained.



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TRANSITION YEAR DISCOVERY PROGRAMME

The following are sample programmes which have been successful to date. We will however gladly work with the co-ordinators to design a package more suitable to your needs.

ONE-DAY DISCOVERY (Non-Residential)

9am Arrival
Activities Canoeing
Orienteering
1pm Lunch
Activities Abseiling/ Rock climbing
Archery

**PRICE CODE A
SEE RATE CARD**

N.B. Co-ordinators may choose to omit any one or more of these activities to give more time to selected pursuits.

ONE-DAY DISCOVERY (Residential)

Day 1

6 pm Arrival/ Supper
7pm Initiative Exercises

Day 2

9am Breakfast
Activities Canoeing
Orienteering
Archery
Rock climbing
1pm Lunch
Activities As Morning
5pm Depart

**PRICE CODE B
SEE RATE CARD**

Group is divided into four smaller teams. Each team participates in two morning and two afternoon activities.

TWO-DAY DISCOVERY (Residential)

6pm Arrival
7pm Initiative Exercises

Day 1

9am Breakfast
Activity High Ropes
1pm Lunch
Activity Orienteering
5pm Dinner
Activity Archery / Team Games

Day 2

9am Breakfast
Activity Canoeing
1pm Lunch
Activity Hill Walking
5pm Depart

**PRICE CODE C
SEE RATE CARD**

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LEAVING CERT APPLIED EXPLORER PROGRAMME

At Baltinglass we understand the objectives of those students who take the Active Leisure Studies module. Our Explorer Programme is designed in particular to provide the setting for those who choose the Outdoor Education Module.

Our hope is that students achieve a new sense of themselves, and their abilities in a new and exciting environment. Outdoor Education will deliver all the situations requiring teamwork, leadership and progression. Skill acquisition is a fundamental part of all our programmes, however we place equal emphasis on enjoyment and thus the desire to include outdoor pursuits as a leisure choice for the future.

EXPLORER OPTIONS

ONE DAY NON RESIDENTIAL

Arrival 9am

The following activities are available. You may choose to concentrate on one activity, combine two in a morning and afternoon programme or include all four in a multi activity day. The choice is yours.

1. CANOEING
2. ROCK CLIMBING/ABSEILING
3. ORIENTEERING
4. ARCHERY
5. HILL WALKING

Lunch is provided at the centre except in the case of full day single activity hill walking trips where a packed lunch is provided.

Depart 5pm.

**PRICE CODE D
SEE RATE CARD**

TWO-DAY EXPLORER

DAY 1

Arrival 9am

Session 1 Canoeing

Lunch 1pm

Session 2 High Ropes

Dinner 5pm

Session 3 Initiative Games

DAY TWO

Breakfast

9am

Session 4 Orienteering

Lunch

1pm

Session 2 Hill Walking

Depart 5pm

**PRICE CODE E
SEE RATE CARD**

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SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF AN ECOSYSTEM

As part of the centres comprehensive outdoor education policy, Baltinglass O.E.C run a very successful Scientific Study of an Ecosystem.

This course, taught by experienced and motivated teachers, is tailored for students taking the ecology element of the Leaving Certificate Biology Syllabus and the course work B Additional Student Investigations element of the Junior Certificate Science Syllabus.

Our course fieldwork takes place in the Lords Wood, an area of significant woodland diversity only minutes walk from the centre.

WOODLAND ECOLOGY COURSE OPTIONS

One Day Non- Residential

COURSE CONTENT

9.30am	Induction Course Outline / Ecological Definitions
10am	FIELDWORK 1 Mapping 2 Flora (Random Sampling/ Non- random Sampling)
1pm	Lunch 3 Physical Features (Temperature, Light Penetration, Ph) Fauna
3pm	Fieldwork Analysis
4pm	Depart

**PRICE CODE F
SEE RATE CARD**



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PRIMARY SCHOOL TOUR

At Baltinglass we run a highly successful multi-activity day for primary school children. Pupils will experience four outdoor activities over the course of this action packed day.

1. Canoeing

2. Rock climbing / Abselling

3. Orienteering

4. Archery

From 9.30am your pupils will be under the care and supervision of our dedicated and experienced instructors. A fast food lunch is provided and activities finish at 4.30pm. All equipment is provided and pupils are required only to bring the following:

A towel

A change of clothes

A swimsuit

Old trainers



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HORIZONS KAYAK AWARD

LEVEL ONE CANOEING IRELAND PROFICIENCY AWARD

At Baltinglass we run an introductory kayak programme designed to bring the complete beginner to the Canoeing Ireland Level One proficiency award. The programme takes place in Baltinglass on the Slaney River, however if there is a suitable venue closer to your school we would be happy to discuss the possibility of accommodating your group. This course can be achieved by selecting either of the two options below.

- Participants for this course must be able to swim.
- The maximum number of participants in any one programme is sixteen.
- The minimum number on any one programme is six.

COURSE AIMS

Fundamental Kayak Skills
Basic Safety Rules of canoeing
Encourage further participation in canoeing

Price on Application

COURSE OPTIONS

OPTION A: Four half days over four consecutive weeks.

OPTION B: Two full days over two consecutive weeks

Certificates will be awarded on completion of this programme.

Participants who are successful may progress to the Canoeing Ireland Level Two Award.



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YOUTH SERVICES ADVENTURE PROGRAMME

Youth outdoor adventure is a truly beneficial way for young people to develop as individuals and as valuable members of teams. Outdoor Education has all the necessary components to encourage personal growth.

The non competitive nature of all our activities ensure that participants take responsibility for others and the natural environment while gaining an unforgettable experience Below we list two options open to youth groups.

These programmes are not restrictive and we are happy to discuss any variation you may prefer.

ONE-DAY YOUTH ADVENTURE (Residential)

Arrive 6pm	Supper
7pm	Activity Indoor Climbing
9am	Breakfast
10am	Activities Canoeing
	Archery
1pm	Lunch
2pm	Activities Orienteering
	Archery
Depart 5pm	

**PRICE CODE G
SEE RATE CARD**

TWO-DAY YOUTH ADVENTURE (Residential)

Arrival 6pm	Supper Induction
7pm	Activity Indoor climbing
<u>Day 1</u>	
9am	Breakfast
10am	Activity High Ropes
1pm	Lunch
2pm	Activity Hill Walk
5pm	Dinner
7pm	Activity Initiative Games
<u>Day 2</u>	
9am	Breakfast
10am	Activity Canoeing
1pm	Lunch
2pm	Activity Orienteering

**PRICE CODE H
SEE RATE CARD**

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OUTDOOR ACTIVITY INSTRUCTOR TRAINEESHIP

Outdoor Activity Instructor Traineeship is delivered by Kildare & Wicklow ETB at Baltinglass OETC. The course is a 43 week daily course running Monday to Friday.

This 43 week full time training course aims to provide applicants with the skills and knowledge required to be able to work as Instructors in an outdoor environment.

All trainees receive the tuition and support they need to prepare them for the final assessments.

The programme includes a work placement module, where trainees will experience on the job training from adventure activity / education providers around the country.

The modules covered are delivered by our expert and experienced staff include;

Career Planning and Job Seeking Skills,
Child Welfare and Protection in Sport,
Mountain Skills,
Outdoor Activity Instructor Work placement,
Remote Emergency Care Level 3 (First Aid),
Rock Climbing Skills,
Water Based Skills,
Power Boat Operations,
Research Project,
Mountain Skills,
Leave no Trace Skills.

For anyone interested in pursuing a career in Outdoor Activities this course has all the requirements needed to get you established in the Outdoor Activities sector.

For further information on this programme please email trainingcourses@kwetb.ie or telephone 0404 60500.

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BOOKING INFORMATION

You can make a provisional booking by telephone or by email. A booking email will then be sent to you. You should complete and return the Group Booking Form to the centre, with the appropriate, non refundable deposit. Your booking is not guaranteed until a deposit is received. The balance of the course fee should be paid fifteen working days in advance of your course commencement date.

Group bookings are priced on the understanding that the minimum number booked is adhered to, for residential programmes the minimum group size is twenty students and the maximum is forty five students, for non residential programmes the minimum group size is twenty students and the maximum number is eighty students.

With every ten places booked a Teacher/Leader may attend free of charge. Group leaders must be twenty one years of age or older.

If a course is booked less than fifteen working days before the course commencement date, the full course fee must be paid immediately to secure booking. Should you wish to have your course fee invoiced, you must include an official purchase order form with your completed course booking form.

CANCELLATION

If you cancel your booking within ten working days of your course start date, a 50% refund will be made. If you cancel less than ten working days prior to the course start date, there will be no refund.

The Centre reserves the right at any time to cancel or alter a booking. This may be due to insufficient numbers, poor weather or other unforeseen circumstances. In such a case, the centre will make every effort to give ample notice, and a full refund will be made.

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THINGS TO BRING WITH YOU

Non Residential Courses

- Strong Footwear with good grip (ideally walking boots)
- Runners(an old pair that will get wet)
- Swimsuit, towel and toiletries (aerosols not permitted)
- Woollen hat and scarf
- Tracksuit bottoms (denims are not suitable)
- Rain coat

Residential Courses

- Strong Waterproof Footwear with good grip (ideally walking boots)
- Old runners that will get wet
- Swimsuit, Towels and toiletries (aerosols are not permitted)
- Woollen hat, scarf and gloves
- Tracksuit Bottoms (at least 2)
- Warm Socks
- Jumpers (preferably thin ones which can be layered)
- Rain coat

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CENTRE RULES

- The Centre operates a strict no smoking policy.
- Alcohol / Substance Abuse is strictly prohibited.
- Students are expected to make a genuine effort to participate at all times.
- The use of mobile phones will be restricted to a certain time frame.
- Any damage caused by participants will result in the group being responsible for the cost of repair or replacement.
- The Centre Management are not responsible for the loss, or damage to personal property.

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KILDARE AND WICKLOW EDUCATION TRAINING BOARD

Kildare and Wicklow ETB was established in July 2013 by the Education and Training Boards Act 2013 and commenced as an Education and Training provider in both counties.

The Operation of ETBs is governed by the Code of Practice for Governance of ETBs issued by the Department of Education and Skills.

Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB) provide a comprehensive range of education services throughout Kildare and Wicklow. As the largest education provider in counties Kildare and Wicklow, the ETB provides education and training opportunities for life-long-learning through ETB Community National Schools, Second Level Schools, Post Leaving Certificate Courses (PLCs), Adult, Further Education and Training and Youth Support Service.

Kildare and Wicklow ETB places learning and the learner at the heart of its educational provision and as stated in our mission statement, the ETB “will provide learners with flexible education opportunities, which are of the highest quality”.

“Our programmes will reflect current and emerging knowledge and practices and will be relevant to the needs of the individual and our counties. We will offer programmes, delivered in a professional manner in a friendly and supportive environment”.



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NOTES

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**FOR UP TO DATE PRICES AND SPECIAL OFFERS
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

www.baltinglassoec.com

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