

# SuperWeeks

## The Adventure Appeal SCHOOL INFORMATION



### What is ATE's Adventure Appeal?

The Adventure Appeal is a sponsorship scheme designed to financially support underprivileged children aged 8-16 from UK schools to attend a Superweek holiday camp. ATE seeks funding from grant making bodies. The Adventure Appeal is the means by which we allocate these funds.

## How do children benefit?

A seven-day residential in a new environment with fully trained staff is great for building children's self-confidence. Each Superweek is made up of a mixture of people from all over the country. Superweeks offer children a safe and nurturing environment within which they can have fun and build new relationships. They receive round-the-clock care and attention from our Monitors (fully trained staff who provide pastoral care on each Superweek). A wide range of games, songs, handicrafts and other activities, most of them new and different, enable children to explore their interests and get to know themselves better.

## Who is eligible for a sponsored place?

The sponsorship scheme is designed to support children who would benefit from a holiday and would not otherwise have one. Often, but not always, these are pupil premium children. We require a £35 co-payment for each place, which we prefer to be paid by the families directly.

## Which children benefit the most?

It is important to us that all children on the Superweek succeed and enjoy their holiday, so we ask schools to identify children who they believe have sufficient resilience to cope. It is a big step to go away on a week's residential without your family, school teachers and friends. Schools know their children well, which is why we work with partner schools to identify children who would benefit, and also have the personal resources and sufficient communication skills to make the most of the opportunity.

Our Superweek staff are well trained, DBS checked and very often there are several qualified teachers on the holiday working as volunteers. However, our staff may not have specialist training so, regrettably, we are not able to offer places to those with significant levels of SEN or as respite care for parents/carers.

We offer places to schools, wherever possible, in twos and threes so the children should have at least one familiar face on the Superweek. Many children from outside of the sponsored places scheme come on their own for their first Superweek. Staff do their best to ensure all children are encouraged to make friends and join in activities to ensure they have the best week. Children often make friends for life on a Superweek.



# The Process

## Registration

If you haven't already, register to join the scheme by visiting [superweeks.co.uk/adventure-appeal](http://superweeks.co.uk/adventure-appeal)

## Places allocated

We will offer places in a number of tranches during the Spring and Summer terms. We will send offer packs by post or email. Identify the children you think would benefit from a Superweek and invite their parents/guardians to come in to school to speak with you about the scheme.

Explain the holiday offer and talk through the offer pack. The packs offer a specific Superweek; please ensure the child you are offering the place to is available for the duration of the dates of the Superweek.

Email [info@ate.org.uk](mailto:info@ate.org.uk) to provide the names and ages of the children nominated.

## Booking forms

Encourage the parent to complete the booking form as soon as possible. This can be done online, or by completing and posting a paper form. Full details will be included in the offer packs. Some parents and guardians may require some support in completing the forms; we would be grateful if you could offer this.

## Unfilled spaces

If you are unable to fill all of the places offered, please email us on [info@ate.org.uk](mailto:info@ate.org.uk) as soon as possible so that we have time to reallocate them.

## Payment

If you will be arranging co-payments for the children from your school, please let us know and we will raise an invoice. Please ensure this is paid promptly, issuing any PO numbers ahead of invoicing, if required. Note that the places will not be confirmed until the booking forms and payments have been received.

## Medical forms and final details

From this point, we will communicate directly with parents. A few weeks before their holiday, we will send out travel information and a medical form. We would appreciate your support in ensuring this form is returned to us promptly.

Please note we are unable to accept a child onto a Superweek without a completed Medical Form.

# Meeting with parents

## Points to discuss

### Travel

We provide supervised travel from 17 travel points. Parents should indicate their preferred travel point on the booking form.

Please check that parents can get to and from the travel point at the right time. Parents will need to cover the cost of getting to and from the travel point. We will send a travel letter to parents two weeks before the Superweek begins with exact meeting times and locations.

### Co-payments

We ask parents to pay £35 towards the cost of the holiday. If the school will be arranging the co-payments, please let us know at [info@ate.org.uk](mailto:info@ate.org.uk). Prompt payment would be appreciated.

### Communication during the Superweek

Parents will receive an email from the office when the children have arrived at the centre. Children will be able to call home, usually by lunchtime the next day, to let parents know how they are doing. Even if they feel anxious, advise parents to be supportive, encouraging their children to share experiences with questions such as 'What is your Monitor's name?' and 'What games have you played?'

Parents can call the office to get updates on their child if necessary; updates and photos will also be shared, either by email or on social media. The Director will arrange additional calls home if they think it would be helpful. Superweeks are packed with activities and our experience is that the children are busy and engaged and don't need to speak to parents!

### Mobile phones and electronics

Children are allowed mobile phones and electronic devices during travel to and from the Superweek. On arrival these are collected and looked after by the Director until departure. This allows children to fully engage during the Superweek and prevents loss and damage of valuable items. Please ensure parents are aware of this in advance.