



Folk Camps
be a part of it!

Folk Camps Society Limited

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Folk Camps is a company limited by guarantee (Reg No 931434) and a registered charity (No 255901)

Folk Camps Guardianship Policy

Folk Camps has had a long-standing arrangement that all campers aged under 18 and not accompanied by their parents must have a guardian (i.e. responsible adult, aged over 21) acting in Loco Parentis.

This policy aims to clarify expectations on parents arranging guardianship and ensure that any individual acting as a guardian is aware of the responsibilities that are associated with acting as a guardian.

Role – in Loco Parentis

‘In loco parentis’ has legal significance when it comes to looking after other people’s children – either on a casual or educational basis. ‘In loco parentis’ is Latin for ‘instead of a parent’.

When looking after someone else’s children in a casual capacity, then the legal expectation is that you should exercise the same care and skill in terms of caring for that child as for your own children.

If a child is put in danger or experiences negligence in the way that they are cared for, the individual acting in Loco Parentis is considered legally responsible.

For this reason it is important to ensure that all parties are aware of the responsibilities involved and have formally agreed to take on these responsibilities.

Folk Camps Approach

Campers under 18 have been attending camps without their families for many years and this policy aims to put a framework around that.

- Children under the age of 18 are the responsibility of their parent or guardian at all times.
- Guardian includes by default the named booking adult. (See [safeguarding policy](#)).
 - o Where a child is attending camp with another adult/family and is part of their group booking Folk Camps will assume that there is mutual agreement between the parents and booking adult that they will fulfil the guardian role.
- If you make a booking for under 18s with no adults over 21, then this guardianship policy applies.

Process to ensure clarity on Guardian arrangements

Folk Camps administration does not have a role in helping find and agree a guardian. The responsibility is with the child’s parents.

A guardian arrangement should not be agreed by the child – it is the responsibility of the parent to speak with/contact potential guardian(s) and seek agreement.

- All guardians must be aged 21 or over.
- Where a child is booked separately from any adults, Folk Camps will require written communication from both the parent and guardian that they have agreed the arrangement.