



# **INFORMATION PACK**

## **FOR PARENTS & YOUTH LEADERS**

Wydale Hall  
21-24 August 19



# Contents

**What is Youth Fest?.....p.3**

**When & where is it?.....p.4**

**How much is it?.....p.4**

**How do I book?.....p.5**

**Communication before the event .....p.5**

**Bringing a group of young people.....p.6**

**Kit List.....p.7**

**Transport.....p.8**

**Whilst at Youth Fest.....p.8**

**Facilities on site.....p.10**

**Departure day.....p.11**

**After Youth Fest.....p.11**



## What is Youth Fest?

Youth Fest is a four day (three night) festival for 11-18s that has a unique family feel. The event is organised by the youth team at The Belfrey (St Michael le Belfrey) in York and we long to see young people encounter Jesus.

Our story started in 2015 when Head of Youth and Children's Work, Lee Kirkby, looked out from the doors of The Storehouse (our youth & children's work centre) and thought '*wouldn't it be great to have a festival in the car park?*' And so we did! The yard was transformed into a showground, filled with marquees, festoons, straw bales, a caravan and even a portable toilet. A strange but wonderful scenario: camping in the centre of York on the edge of an industrial estate. We made it family. People from church helped us set up camp, brought us cake, cooked for us and our own friends led us in teaching and worship. It was simple and uncomplicated. Yet over those few days we encountered Jesus in a tremendous way, and five young people from our youth group gave their lives to Him!

In 2017, God told us to invite our neighbours. He prepared us by moving to a new site at Wydale Hall and we now have a large big top, in expectation for the family to multiply again this year! We believe God will fill this tent with our brothers and sisters from across the region and we hope you will come and join us too.

Youth Fest is unashamedly about meeting to worship Jesus and growing to be more like Him. We also want to have heaps of fun at the same time! Every morning and evening we'll meet as one big family for a time of worship and teaching, with space for ministry. During the day there will be time to meet as individual youth groups, space to chat and opportunities to go to seminars which will cover lots of life and faith topics. We'll also have pop up events such as inflatable fun, sports, a silent disco, music, cafes, wet n slide, films and lots more to keep everyone occupied for each minute of our time together.

What a way to spend the last few days of summer!

## When & Where is it?



People can begin to arrive on site from 12.00 noon on Wednesday 21 August to set up camp and prepare for the first main meeting, starting at 7.00pm. The earlier you arrive, the more time you'll have to make your home in the field and get cracking with the programme we have planned for you.

The event finishes after lunch on the Saturday afternoon and everyone will need to be off site by 2.00pm so the team can pack down safely/ prepare for Family Fest which follows.

Youth Fest is held in the grounds of Wydale Hall, the Diocesan retreat and conference centre for the Diocese of York. Scarborough is the nearest town, being just 10 miles away.

Each youth group camping with us will have their own assigned village. We're only a small site, so we'll be a village of villages!

## How much is it?

### **Prices and booking deadline**

The total cost is £100 which includes all meals, use of showers, activities and associated fees. There will be cafe outlets and a tuck shop on site so please bring some money with you.

Booking deadline: **Tuesday 6 August** (but do get in touch after this date - we might just be able to squeeze you in!)

### **Too expensive?**

Youth Fest actually costs us more than we receive in ticket sales. In previous years, we've relied on the generosity of people who support our work to make this event happen. We believe it is worth it!

We try to keep tickets as low priced as we can. However, we do appreciate that for families with more than one sibling or for those who are on low incomes, £100 may be too much of a stretch. We never want money to prevent young people joining us, so just drop us a message if you'd like us to give you a helping hand: [youth-fest@belfrey.org](mailto:youth-fest@belfrey.org) Similarly, if you would like to sponsor a young person who perhaps cannot afford to come, we'd love to hear from you.

### **More than one child?**

Multiple siblings? We can offer a 50% discount per additional booking you make. I.e. a family of three would cost £200 instead of £300.



### **Insurance**

We are not able to offer refunds so you may wish to arrange cover in case there is an emergency which means you can't attend. There are a number of holiday insurance offers available, just search the internet for something that suits your circumstances.

## **How do I book?**

### **Belfrey Youth**

If you are a young person who attends The Belfrey, just pop to our website [youth-fest.uk](http://youth-fest.uk) and read the First Letter. You can then ask a parent/guardian to complete the online booking form.

### **On your own or without a youth group?**

No problem! If you want to book on your own or come with a friend or two but are not in a youth group, just pop to our website [youth-fest.uk](http://youth-fest.uk) and download the First Letter. You can then book onto Youth Fest using the online booking facility.

### **With your Youth Group?**

Your group leader can contact our youth team at [youth-fest@belfrey.org](mailto:youth-fest@belfrey.org) and chat about the best way to book your group onto Youth Fest. We're likely to suggest that you plan as you would an ordinary trip i.e. your own letters, consent forms, collecting money, staff ratios etc and then your group leader can liaise with a member of our team about making it all happen.

## **Communication before the event**

### **Booking confirmation**

If you have booked with us directly, you should receive an email confirming your booking. If you don't get this just drop us a message at [youth-fest@belfrey.org](mailto:youth-fest@belfrey.org) and we'll chase it up.

If you've booked with a group, your group leader will be able to confirm your booking.

### **Arrival Information**

A few weeks before the event, we'll send your arrival information by email which will include what time to arrive, your camping village and our site rules.

### **Wristbands**



As you arrive on site, you will be welcomed by a member of the Youth Fest team. You will be issued with a wristband which you should wear throughout the event.

If for any reason you lose or damage your wristband, replacements can be obtained by arrangement with Site Services.

## Bringing a group of young people

### **Admin**

If you are thinking of bringing your youth group, you will need to follow your standard procedures for taking a group away i.e. consent forms, risk assessment, relevant permissions, team ratios etc.

It is helpful for your group leader to share some basic information with our organisers, for example: each young person's full name, date of birth and an emergency phone number.

### **DBS**

Each child is the responsibility of their group leader throughout the event. We recommend one leader for every six young people under 18. We don't need to see the DBS certificates for your leaders but we will ask that all leaders complete a confidential declaration form for us to file.

### **Risk Assessment**

Your church leadership may require you to complete a risk assessment. We can't provide this for you, but may be able to identify some help and point you in the right direction.

A full risk assessment of the organised event activities on site will be undertaken prior to the event by St Michael le Belfrey staff.

### **Contact Info**

You (the group leader) are the person we will contact in an emergency. We suggest you keep a printed copy of all your young people's emergency contact details and store them somewhere safe whilst on site.

### **Medical or allergy information**

We will have first aiders on site throughout the event and they will be clearly marked by wearing a green First Aid tabard.

Any food allergies should be made known to us beforehand [youth-fest@belfrey.org](mailto:youth-fest@belfrey.org)



## Kit list

We are camping! There are some basic essentials you will always need for camping. We have included a full kit list to help you pack.

We advise you not to bring valuables with you as tents can't be secured; anything you do bring is entirely at your own risk.

- Tent (with poles and pegs) or arrange to share with your friends (in single sex tents!)
- Camping chair
- Air bed, camping bed or roll mat
- Sleeping bag (or a duvet and sheet to fit your air bed)
- Pillow & pillowcase
- Torch
- Water bottle
- Bible & notebook
- Toiletries and towel
- Clothes - enough for at least four days (and for messy games!)
- Underwear & socks - including spares - you never know!
- Two pairs of shoes (in case the site gets muddy)
- Waterproof jacket & trousers
- Wellies & thick socks
- Pocket money for tuck shop
- Fancy dress costume for the last night - theme to be announced via Twitter @YouthFest2018

## Transport

Transport for young people will be provided to and from York. Separate travel details will be sent out nearer to the time.



If you are not coming from York, group leaders or parents are responsible for arranging transport to and from Wydale Hall. Remember, young people will need to bring a lot of camping equipment with them!

The address for arriving is:

*Wydale Hall,  
Wydale Lane  
Brompton-by-Sawdon  
Scarborough  
North Yorkshire  
YO13 9DG*

**COACHES: PLEASE USE THE SECOND ENTRANCE TO WYDALE HALL!**

## Whilst at Youth Fest

### **Arrival**

You'll be greeted by our welcome team in the car park, checked in and then you'll be free to grab a wheelbarrow and take your camping gear to your assigned village.

You'll then have time to set up camp and explore the site. We'll put on some fun stuff in the afternoon before formally starting the event with our main celebration event at 7.00pm.

### **Villages**

Our team will walk around the site and will attach a tag to your tent. It would be helpful if you could list on that tag who is sleeping inside your tent for safety reasons.

### **Programmes**

We'll make sure you know exactly what is going on every second of the day whilst on site. Printed programmes will be available for you to pick up when you arrive.

We'll also be using social media to keep young people (and the world!) updated.

### **Food & drink**

Three main meals (with at least one warm cooked meal) will be provided each day. On site, there will also be a tuck shop that will sell snacks and drinks throughout the event. There will be hot drinks available in the cafe.

Fresh drinking water points are available all around the site so bring a water bottle with you.



### **Site Curfew**

Wydale Hall has some wonderful neighbours who we want to respect! All amplified sound and music will be turned off at 10.30pm with a total noise curfew from 11.00pm.

We expect everyone to be in their tents by 12.00 midnight and those wearing Youth Fest fluorescent jackets should be the only ones walking around site until 7.00am.

### **Fire Safety**

There should be no naked flames on site. Please do not bring gas camping stoves, heaters, candles, or ignition devices with you. Fire risk should be low providing these conditions are met.

In case there is an emergency, there is a Fire Point where a bell can be rung to alert the whole site of an emergency. The assembly point is in the car park of Wydale Hall. Group leaders should be prepared with group numbers and names.

Each main venue will be serviced by fire extinguishers.

### **Security**

The venue is secluded and the site will be kept secure by Youth Fest staff being vigilant. Heras fencing will mark out the secure camping areas. Key team members will have radio contact at all times, even throughout the night.

A two way radio controller will be available at Site Services and accessible 24/7 to call for assistance if required.

Team members will be clearly marked by wearing a specific Team wristband.

The site will be floodlit at nighttime.

### **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding is a top priority for us. That's why we make sure all our teams have adequate training. Not every adult on site will be DBS checked e.g our cooks, visitors to Wydale & Wydale staff; but Youth Fest staff with direct one to one contact with young people will have undertaken our normal recruitment procedure.

Group leaders are responsible for the safeguarding of their group whilst on site. Youth Fest will be operating under the umbrella of The Belfrey's Safeguarding Policy as recommended by the Diocese of York but individual groups should operate within the guidelines of their own policy as normal.



We are asking all adults on site to complete a Confidential Declaration Form for us. This will be stored by Belfrey staff on site.

Safeguarding concerns can be reported to the Safeguarding Lead on site or by emailing [safeguarding@belfrey.org](mailto:safeguarding@belfrey.org)

## Facilities on Site

### **Electricity**

Unfortunately we do not allow generators on site for safety reasons. We have limited power points which can only be used to supply the main venues and not individual tents. Sorry!

If you require an electrical hook up for medical reasons, please contact us [youth-fest@belfrey.org](mailto:youth-fest@belfrey.org) and we'll try our best to help.

### **Phone Charging**

There will be phone charging points available on site during the day times. Phones left on charge overnight, will be unplugged and stored at Site Services for collection the next day.

### **Internet**

WiFi is not guaranteed. The site we are using is away from most buildings. Anyhow, we want to encourage people to talk!

### **Toilets & Showers**

Each village will have designated male and female toilets. Showers are available in the Emmaus Centre nearby where we have limited access to the facilities. There are separate facilities for young people and leaders which will be clearly marked.

After curfew throughout the nighttime, the Emmaus Centre will be unavailable to use. Portable toilet facilities should be used instead.

## Departure day

Our last day is Saturday, finishing after lunch. You'll need to pack down and make sure you are off site by around 2.00pm in preparation for our next event starting - Family Fest.

Remember:

**COACHES: PLEASE USE THE SECOND ENTRANCE TO WYDALE HALL!** This is marked 'Deliveries'.



Those travelling back to York should arrive home around 3.00pm.

## After Youth Fest

We'd love to keep in touch and continue to hear what God is doing among you! We'll arrange a get-together a few months after Youth Fest and we'll catch up with each other over some food, worship and celebration!

Our heart is to see you encounter Jesus and for you to be rooted in your local church family. We'd love to know what you're up to so don't be a stranger after the event. Keep in touch and email us [youth-fest@belfrey.org](mailto:youth-fest@belfrey.org)