


FSSE: FRIENDS SOUTHERN SUMMER EVENTS  
**JUNIOR GATHERING INFORMATION PACK 2021**

# Friends Southern Summer Events



A packed Quaker week of friendship and fun for young people

<b>Junior Gathering</b> juniorgathering@fsse.org.uk 11-14 years	14-21 August 2021 Leighton Park School, Reading
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**f** groups/fsseuk      [www.fsse.org.uk](http://www.fsse.org.uk)      **t** @fsse\_uk

## What is FSSE Junior Gathering?

Junior Gathering is a brilliant week in which young people have a chance to make new friends and be together in a Quaker environment. The theme for this year, chosen by the young people, is “Caring for ourselves and others”. The event will take place at Leighton Park School in Reading.

This year will be a little different than usual, but the things that make the event so special will still be there. In speaker sessions, we will explore ideas through workshops, drama, worship, films and games. The week spent with friends who share Quaker values can be life-changing and is also hugely good fun. A variety of activities to choose from include craft, cooking, music, discussions and sports. And then we have base groups, quizzes, wide games, entertainments and a themed disco.

We welcome both regular attenders and young people who do not usually come to Quaker Meeting.

Everyone will be in a base group made up of about eight young people as well as two adult volunteers. The base group is your Junior Gathering family, and everyone looks after each other. Everyone has their own bedroom, some shared and some single; when they are shared it will be with those of a similar age. Everyone also has a “secret friend” who secretly does kind things and gives you tiny presents – it might be worth bringing a couple of tiny gifts for your secret friend.

We follow Britain Yearly Meeting guidelines concerning the safety and wellbeing of those taking part. Our Child Protection Policy is on the [FSSE website](#). All adult volunteers are required to have current, enhanced checks from the Disclosure and Barring Service.

This year, we have looked carefully at how to keep the essence of Junior Gathering, while still minimising the risk of coronavirus to us and others. As such, our current policy is that we will require all participants to take a lateral flow test before starting the event, and we will need to see that the result is negative. We anticipate staff having been vaccinated, but we will all also be taking tests before the event starts. Any visitors to the event will need to do the same. The Oxford trip won't happen this year – we know this will be missed, it's one of the highlights of the week, but it's just not feasible this year.

With a few months to go, we expect the law and guidance will continue to change. The event coordinators and trustees will regularly review this to ensure we keep the right balance of a fun, friendly, safe event.

If you have any questions, please get in touch: [juniorgathering@fsse.org.uk](mailto:juniorgathering@fsse.org.uk)

# FSSE: Junior Gathering Information 2021

## Applications

You can [apply online](#) or email the bookings secretary, Ollie Waterhouse, if you have any further questions: [juniorgathering@fsse.org.uk](mailto:juniorgathering@fsse.org.uk). If possible, please apply before 30th June. At the end of June 'joining instructions' with full information of what to bring, and the JG Boundaries will be sent to everyone. The young people will also be invited to send in requests for room-share.

## Payment & Bursaries

Full payment of £380 is due 30th June. No-one will be prevented from attending Junior Gathering by difficulty with payment. Most Local and Area Meetings will help with payment, but if you need a grant in addition, please let the bookings secretary know. You can send a cheque or make a BACS transfer, please email the bookings secretary for details. If the event cannot go ahead, payments will be refunded in full.

## Travel

**Car:** The main entrance to the school is on Shinfield Road, postcode: RG2 7ED. Please do not arrive before 4pm on Saturday 14th August because we will not be ready for you! Pick up is at 10am on Saturday 21st August.

**Coach:** Due to COVID-19, we encourage people to come to Junior Gathering by private transport or car-sharing. Depending on numbers we may be able to arrange a coach to and from Friends' House, Euston – please indicate when booking if you would use this option.

## Costs

Junior Gathering fee: £380

Optional: Coach from Friends House to Leighton Park School and return: £TBC – was £20 in 2019.

Pocket money for tuck shop (about £20 recommended)


## Meals

All dietary requirements can be catered for and there is always a choice of food so no-one has to eat what they don't like. Please make sure to include any dietary needs on the application form (e.g. vegetarian, vegan, food allergies ...)

## Insurance

Any items of value brought to Junior Gathering must be fully insured against loss and damage. Junior Gathering cannot be responsible for personal property.

To give you an idea of what a week at Junior Gathering looks like,  
here is 2019's timetable:

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Lie in!	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	
	Dorm Tidying	Dorm Tidying	Dorm Tidying	Breakfast	Dorm Tidying	Dorm Tidying	Dorm Tidying	
	Meeting for Worship	Meeting for Worship	Meeting for Worship	<del>Oxford Trip</del>	Meeting for Worship	Meeting for Worship	Meeting for Worship	
	Activities	Activities	Activities		Activities	Activities	Departure	
	Drinks	Drinks	Drinks		Drinks	Drinks		
	Ecumenical accompanying	Fairtrade & Inequality	Direct Activism		QPSW Economic Inequality	Climate Justice		
	Base Group	Base Group	Base Group		Base Group	Base Group		
	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch		
	Giant Cluedo	Mega Marble Runs	<del>Harris Gardens</del>		Fete	Young People's Business Meeting		
	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time		Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	
Welcome & Evening Meal	Evening Meal	Evening Meal	Evening Meal		Evening Meal	Evening Meal	Evening Meal	
Intro to theme	Quiz	Basegroup Challenge	Barn Dance		Life Lines	Carnival Disco	Ents	
Drinks	Drinks	Drinks	Drinks		Drinks	Drinks	Drinks	
Epilogue	Epilogue	Epilogue	Epilogue	Epilogue	Epilogue	Epilogue		
Bedtime 21.40	Bedtime	Bedtime	Bedtime	Bedtime	Bedtime			
Lights Out 22.30	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Bedtime/ Late room		

## Packing ideas

- Change of clothes
- Nightwear
- Underwear
- Washing things
- Indoor and outdoor shoes
- Waterproof coat
- Torch
- Sports stuff: clothes and shoes, swimwear and extra towel, table tennis bats and balls
- Something small to give your secret friend – don't worry if you forget this, there'll be plenty of craft supplies to make something at the event!
- Instruments and music/song books
- Reading material, or sketching kit, playing cards/board games
- Materials for activities you might do e.g. T-shirt for tie-dye or glass jar for painting – more details in the joining instructions we'll send nearer the time
- Costume for the disco
- Face mask
- **Mobile phones** may be brought with you, but they will only be available during free time

## IMPORTANT NOTE

Smoking and alcohol are not allowed at Junior Gathering. If any young person is found in possession of cigarettes, tobacco in any form, alcoholic drinks or recreational drugs, this could result in the young person being sent home immediately.