



The Learning Away schools have developed a series of themed resource packs to help other schools plan and deliver **Brilliant Residentials**.

Find out more at: <http://www.learningaway.org.uk/>

TOP TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL CO-CONSTRUCTED RESIDENTIALS

Charlton Park Academy and Woodlarks Campsite collaborated to produce these best practice tips to help staff, students and venues successfully co-create brilliant residentials:

- Visit the residential location for a tour and discussion; allow plenty of time for this and take at least one other co-constructor with you. Alternative perspectives are key.
- Discuss the school's aims and objectives for the residential and exchange ideas with the centre. Keep the discussion going in the run up to the residential and during it.
- Discuss resourcing with the centre – do they have equipment or materials that you could borrow?
- Parents are partners in co-construction too; they will have questions and opinions about the residential experience and the activities on offer. If possible, arrange a trip to the residential location to help ease their concerns, and provide a Q&A opportunity (or written Q&As).
- Organise staff training at the centre for both school and centre staff in order to build a shared vision and approach for the residential.
- Clarify roles and responsibilities of school and centre staff, making the most of skills and enthusiasms; be open to the idea of school staff leading activities when at the centre - for example an art based or meditation session.
- During the residential, keep an open dialogue going with the provider, with both sides flexible enough to make changes where appropriate.
- Respond to students' needs. Continuing the co-construction model (e.g. home group, council and community) throughout the residential will help deal with issues before they become difficult.
- Create and use residential planning templates, alongside young people. Browse the [Resources Library](#) to see what the Learning Away schools have created, including a '[bigger picture](#)' template and a [budget plan](#).
- Meet after the residential to evaluate shared outcomes; this could include an invitation for the residential provider to join a post-residential meeting with all co-constructors, back in school.
- Discuss other ways of maximising the outcomes of the residential – for example, day trips, centre staff leading activities at school or using the centre as a work experience provider.



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