



Early Drop-off/ Late pick up Arrangements for Summer Scheme

Early drop off/ late pick up cost £2 each, per child and can be booked and paid for on arrival on the first day that your child comes to the summer scheme – please pay by cash or cheque, as we don't have a card machine down at Shaw's Bridge.

You are welcome to bring your child down on the Monday morning anytime from 8.30am onwards – there is no charge for early drop off on a Monday morning, as it helps us to have people arriving at different times so that there isn't a huge queue at 10 o'clock.

Early drop-off – at Shaw's Bridge

- Main activities do not start until the normal start time of 10am – early children may be given a ball or similar to play with, or may simply be happy to chat. They might be asked if they want to help to organise equipment for the day – entirely optional, of course.
- Children are supervised, according to need – at least one person will be tasked with watching the group. Staff may simply be assigned to supervision or may be doing other jobs whilst keeping an eye on them (for example, sorting out buoyancy aids as they chat to the children). Younger children or those that have special needs will need closer supervision and individual children will want different interaction on different days. Needs also change as the week goes on and children get to know each other, and become familiar with the routine and the staff. We adapt accordingly to ensure your child's safety, but you should be aware that instructors will not always be actively entertaining the children.
- Please make sure that the children are suitably dressed – they may need an extra layer in the early morning before the day warms up, especially as they will be less active at this stage than later on. You might also want to pack an extra snack – so that they don't eat their lunch ahead of time.

Late-pick up – At Ardnally Scout Centre

- Can you please arrange to pick up your child at Ardnally, rather than at Shaw's Bridge on late days? We'll walk them up here via the towpath, not using the busy main road. There are more things they can do when they are waiting here and there are toilet facilities beside us rather than five minutes away, and there is space for them to just flop if that's what they want to do. Some kids actually like to bring a book and just sit down for a while. Please don't let them bring iPads or other electronics though – they won't have access to Wi-Fi and we wouldn't want to risk damage to expensive gadgets as they are pulling things in and out of their bags, and packing away wet stuff.
- We would suggest that you pack an extra snack and drink for them to have after the other children have left. They tend to be pretty peckish after all that activity.
- If we can, we will transport their bags up to Ardnally for them, but there may be days when they have to carry them themselves. The walk up takes about 15-20 minutes, so it is a good idea to make sure that they have a bag they can comfortably manage – a back pack is usually best, large enough to hold all their gear.

Directions to Ardnavally Scout Centre

To get here:

coming from the House of Sport roundabout on the Malone Road you drive down past Shaw's Bridge, past the Crowne Plaza – formerly the Ramada - (which will be on your left), past Belfast Bowls Club, turn left at the traffic lights (there is a filter lane to the left there), to the end of the road (very short road, past a few shops), turn left at the T-junction, keep on past the houses to the end of the road, and in through big stone gates (the gates are simply labelled "in" and "out" and people have a tendency to think they are lost, but come on in – that is the Scout Centre)

coming from Bangor direction on the ring road keep going on past Forestside, past the Newtownbreda Tesco, right down to the end of the dual carriageway. Turn right there and head towards Shaw's Bridge, but before you get that far you will come through a pedestrian crossing at the petrol station and then turn right at the next lights – there are a few shops at that junction as you turn in. It's a very short road, taking you up to a T-junction, at which you turn left, and then keep on past the houses to the end of the road, and in through big stone gates (the gates are simply labelled "in" and "out" and people have a tendency to think they are lost, but come on in – that is the Scout Centre).

If you want to google directions, then we are at 109 Old Milltown Road, BT8 4SP. Ardnavally Scout Centre does come up on google maps, though you do need to get the spelling right – no "e" in vally.

Parking is to the right, and we have our base in to the left, behind the red brick scout building. Please don't drive round into our area – it is a blind bend and you never know what the children will be up to when you get here!