Birthday Parties

Information Guide

Here at Northumberland College Zoo we love to help you celebrate a loved one's birthday.

We have two types of birthday party to choose from:

Zoo Birthday Party:

Time to yourselves to enjoy the zoo followed by time to enjoy the zoo with one of our classrooms provided for you to enjoy your party food and celebrations.

The birthday room can be available 10-12.30pm **or** 1.30-4pm. **We no longer include** a handling session in our discovery room to match our ongoing commitment to improve animal welfare in our collection.

Zookeeper Experience Birthday Party

This full day allows for smaller groups of friends to attend and experience what it is like to be a zookeeper. Shadowing one of our amazing keeper team you will get to feed, clean and handle and health check some of our animals as well as having a party lunch in one of our rooms. This lasts from 10-3pm.

We are more than happy to help you achieve the perfect party for your child or family member so please do feel free to ask for any special requests and we will see if we can accommodate these.

Zoo Birthday Party

Northumberland College Zoo Birthday parties are great value. Access to your own private party room for the morning or afternoon with full access to the zoo. We provide a packed lunch at either 11am or 2pm depending on when you choose to have your party.

We also provide you with downloadable printable party invitation.

Duration:

The room must be vacated by 12.30pm if you choose a morning slot or 4pm if you choose the afternoon slot

Cost and party size:

The cost of a zoo birthday party is £200.00 for up to 10 children with a maximum of 20 children charged at £20 for additional children over 10 guests. **Each child can have one free adult attending and the birthday person can have 2 free accompanying adults.**

If you wish to have venue only party where you bring ALL your own food then the cost would be £150 for up to 10 children then £15 per extra child above that number.

Any more adults will be charged at the usual admission charge of £8.50. Please note lunch boxes are only provided for the children. We have a small kiosk where you can purchase hot and cold drinks along with packaged snacks and gifts. We can add a drinks/snack package on for you at the time of booking for the adults.

What to wear:

Ideally come prepared for all weathers, only part of the zoo is indoors so in case of poor weather best advice is to bring a rain Mac etc. Bring a sun hat and sun cream if it's a hot warm day. Water bottles are encouraged which can be carried around.

What to bring with you:

The majority of the zoo is outdoors so please bring sun cream etc. If it's a sunny day. It's a great opportunity to get lots of photos so bring your camera too.

On the day:

The room can be booked from either 10-12.30pm or 1.30-4pm. Please arrive and head to the admission kiosk where they will meet you and show you to the room.

You can head to the zoo kiosk to get any refreshments you need.

Enjoy your time in the zoo then make your way back to the birthday room for packed lunch at 11am for the morning party or 2pm for the afternoon party.

Lunch:

Each packed lunch will contain a sandwich, a drink, a snack bar or chocolate bar and a packet of crisps.

The presenter will leave you to enjoy your food but will pop back to see if you need anything etc.

If you wish to bring a birthday cake - we have a cake slice, plates, napkins, forks and a candle lighter available. We have a kiosk that the adults can purchase hot drinks and snacks.

Birthday Room Example Photos:





How to book:

Please complete the form at the end of this booklet and send it back to zoo@northumberland.ac.uk

Zookeeper Experience Birthday Party

Suitable for:

Birthday parties for up to 6 children aged **6 or over only**. (drop off at 10am and collect at 3pm)

Duration:

10am till 3pm

Cost:

The cost of a Zoo Experience Birthday party is £300.00 for up to a MAX of 6 children aged **over 6.**

If a parent wishes to attend the day, then that will be an additional £20 (please note that you will need to bring your own food for lunch)

Max number:

6 - we keep numbers low so that you can have a really great experience. It also means you can all enjoy the animals without having to wait outside enclosures while others go in in most enclosures.

What to wear:

Ideally come prepared for all weathers. You may want to help in some of the outdoor enclosures which can get muddy and wet if raining. Bring a sun hat and sun cream if it's a hot warm day too. Water bottles are encouraged which can be carried around throughout the day.

What to bring with you:

We provide your lunch so bring any snacks you may want, any medication you need to take and any sun cream if it's a hot sunny day. If you have a camera it's a great opportunity to take some great pictures too. The guide can help carry things or they can be left in a secure area when you are doing some activities.

On the day:

Start time 10am. Please be at the admissions kiosk for 10am to drop of the birthday party guests where your birthday host will be ready to welcome you for the day. The birthday party will be shown to the birthday base room where you can leave any belongings you may have. The base room is a classroom which is lockable. (parents can accompany the children if they pay for an additional adult admission ticket)

Your birthday guide will then take you on a tour of the zoo. Stopping off at all your favourite animals to answer all your questions and let you take some photos if you wish to.

As part of the tour you will be able to feed some of the animals as you go around, these will change each day but will include rabbits, guinea pigs, our wallabies and some of our wetlands bird species.

Lunch:

A packed lunch is provided which will be given out at lunch time around 12.30-1.00 depending how the morning activities have got on. We have various options including vegetarian and vegan. Each packed lunch will contain a sandwich, drink, snack bar or chocolate bar and crisps. The party will be supervised while they have their lunch by one of our presenter team.

Afternoon:

After lunch the birthday guide will have various activities arranged for the birthday group. These will include, feeding more animals, grooming and health checking some of our reptiles in our discovery room and small furies.

The group will also create some exciting enrichment that they can then go around and place in some of the animal's enclosures and watch how the animals engage and interact with their enrichment activities.

End of the day:

The Zoo birthday party will finish at 3pm. If parents wish to present a cake etc. then this can be arranged at 2.45pm and you're more than welcome to use the birthday base room. We have a cake slice, plates, napkins, forks and a candle lighter available.

Behaviour

We appreciate and really want all guests to enjoy themselves at the birthday party. Our welfare of the animals is really important to us so we must ensure children can act calmly and sensibly, when possible, around the animals. If children are too loud or too overactive when in with animals or when handling animals, we will need to stop some activities and move onto other non-animal activities.

How to book:

Please complete the form at the end of this booklet and send it back to zoo@northumberland.ac.uk

Cancellation Policy:

We must have 7 FULL DAYS Notice to cancel/or change dates for a birthday Party.

After that time, you will be charged FULLY for the event booked and will ne get your deposit back.

Northumberland College Zoo

BOOKING FORM

Type of birthday party: Zoo Party AM ☐ **Zoo Party PM** ☐ **Zookeeper Day Party** ☐

Date of birthday party: _____

Name: _____

Postcode: _____ **Telephone no:** _____

Email address: _____

Please tick if you would like to join our email mailing list? ☐

Birthday child's name: _____ **Age of child on birthday:** _____

Number of children: _____ **Age of children:** _____

Food Required: Y or N ☐ **No of Cheese** ☐ **No of Ham** ☐

Dietary requirements:

(Please note unless informed otherwise the sandwiches will be either cheese or ham)

Any special Requests:

Please sign to confirm that you have understood and agree to the terms and conditions.

Name: _____

Signed: _____ **Dated:** _____

Total Booking Cost - £ _____ **50% Deposit - £** _____

Payment method: we will send you out a payment link for the deposit, once payment is received, we can then confirm the booking. This will state City of Sunderland College as we are part of the EPNE Group.

Please sign and return to: zoo@northumberland.ac.uk