

624 Volunteer Gliding Squadron

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GLIDING INDUCTION COURSE INSTRUCTIONS FOR ESCORTING ADULT SUPERVISORS

ALLOCATIONS:

The Squadron strives to allocate as many Gliding Induction Courses as it can to the ATC and CCF every year. During the summer months we allocate morning and afternoon slots per day, each comprising of four cadets. In the winter months the Squadron allocates one slot per day, comprising of four cadets. Please try to bring the correct number of cadets for your allocations. Failure to fill the quota will affect the Squadrons operations and will be reported to Headquarters Air Cadets (HQAC). For the Squadron to reach its objective of providing professional and beneficial training to as many young cadets as possible it is essential that cadets attend their allocated slots.

TRAVEL:

Cadets travelling to RMB Chivenor for Gliding Induction Courses must be in their working blue cadet uniform. They must also be in possession of a correctly completed RAF F3822 Record of Service Book or CCF Record of Service Book. The Record of Service must show that the cadet has parental consent to fly and that he/she is enrolled in the ATC or CCF. Failure to present a correctly completed Record of Service will prevent the cadet from flying.

The adult supervisor in charge of the party must telephone the Squadron on 01271 857356 between 0800hrs – 0900hrs on the day of the allocation to confirm that they are attending. If flying is to be cancelled this will be advised during the call. Phoning the Squadron will avoid unnecessary journeys as flying may be cancelled for reasons other than bad weather, for example a shortage of serviceable aircraft or other events taking place on the base beyond the Squadrons control. Telephone calls after 0900hrs may not be answered if flying has commenced. If you need to contact the Squadron after 0900hrs then you can contact the Duty Instructor on 07990 914069. Please do not contact the Squadron staff at home for weather forecasts, as these arrive by fax/email direct to the Squadron HQ at variable times.

ARRIVAL:

On arrival at RMB Chivenor you must report to the main guardroom and present your identity card or paperwork. Civilian Instructors are advised to have written identification, a letter on headed paper signed by your unit commander will normally suffice. A temporary vehicle pass will be issued which must be displayed in the windscreen at all times whilst the vehicle is on the base and the pass must be returned to the guardroom on departure.

REPORTING:

On leaving the guardroom, follow the road ahead and take the second turning on the left, this is sign posted 624 VG SQN RAF; continue down this road to a gate in the perimeter fence. Please be aware you will need to exit your vehicle and identify yourself in order to gain access to the airfield. After passing through the gate, you are on an ACTIVE AIRFIELD and YOU must give way to aircraft. Once on the airfield immediately turn left and follow the taxiway down to the Squadron HQ, a green single story building adjacent to a green hangar, and report to the staff there. If flying is in progress it is likely that the HQ will be unattended and the outer door to the HQ will be locked. In this scenario phone the Duty Instructor at the number quoted above or use the Handheld Radio in the foyer to contact the Control Trailer on the airfield. Whilst travelling on the airfield it is essential that you do not drive through any red lights on the runways or on the grassed areas.



FACILITIES:

The Control Trailer has a small seating area for visitors. There are no messing facilities available to visiting parties; staff and cadets should bring a packed lunch and drinks. Limited tea making facilities are available on request. Male and female toilets are available at the Squadron HQ, transport to which is available on request from the Duty Instructor.

ORGANISATION:

The Squadrons Commanding Officer is Sqn Ldr G W North RAF VR(T), in his absence the senior officer present will act as the Gliding Squadron Duty Executive and the Duty Instructor will organise the flying programme. Any problems should be brought to the attention of the Duty Instructor. Any member of staff will help if approached by visiting staff or cadets, so please ask questions. Other flying may sometimes take priority over GIC sorties as there are strict priorities laid down by HQAC of which we must adhere to.

FLYING:

Please remind cadets of the dangers of FOD (Foreign Object Damage) to aircraft before they attend the Squadron. On arrival at the Squadron HQ, the party will be given a briefing covering headsets, parachutes, emergency drills and entering/exiting the Vigilant. It is very important that the cadets pay attention during this briefing. Cadets RAF F3822/ROS Books will be collected and entries checked before being flown.

CLOTHING:

To comply with service regulations, all passengers are required to wear button-less coveralls and smooth soled shoes or trainers. We can provide a limited number of coveralls, therefore units who own sets of coveralls please bring them with you. The aircraft is fitted with a cabin heater but the airfield is a cold environment so extra clothing may be required when not flying, especially during the winter months. It is also advisable for cadets to bring sunglasses, even during the winter months.

PRIORITY:

The Squadron will normally fly the least experienced cadets first. The cadets will fly the Gliding Induction Course (GIC) appropriate to them. For example cadets at the Squadron for the first time will complete GIC 1, a 20 minute sortie. Cadets that have flown once before will complete a GIC 2, a 25 minute sortie and twice before a GIC 3, a 30 minute sortie. If the programme permits, staff members may be offered a flight. Staff will be required to present their RAF F1250 / MOD F90 or Civilian Instructor Identification Card. Only staff with relevant ID will be flown.

PURPOSE:

624 VG Sqn is one of 28 Air Cadet Gliding Squadrons in the UK. The primary task of the Squadron is to teach trainees up to first solo standard for their Gliding Scholarship and to provide GICs to cadets. For this the Squadron is allocated three Vigilant T-Mk 1 Military Motor Gliders with staff of up to 30 volunteers comprising Commissioned Officers, Civilian Gliding Instructors and Flight Staff Cadets. The unit operates every weekend, most bank holidays and occasionally on weeklong courses throughout the year.

The Squadron website can be accessed via www.624vgs.co.uk and contains useful information on your visit.

COMMENTS:

The staff of 624 VG Sqn hope that you and your cadets have an enjoyable visit to the Squadron, if you have any observations or comments then please pass them onto the Duty Instructor. Alternatively you may wish to contact the Adjutant in writing at the Squadron address above. Your comments will be gratefully received as we are always looking to improve.