

# PARENT/CARER FAQS

Here are answers to some of the most common questions parents might have about Satellites. Got others? Drop us an email on [hello@wearesatellites.com](mailto:hello@wearesatellites.com)

## **Covid-19 is still quite a big part of our considerations, what happens if you can't run the event because of it?**

We are hopeful that Covid-19 will not interfere with the experience of young people at Satellites. However, we want to take a conscientious approach, which will be anchored in the best scientific and government advice at the time. We will take the welfare of our guests extremely seriously, but we will also make sure that our response to Covid-19 is measured and appropriate to the position we find ourselves in with the pandemic in August 2022. In what is hopefully an unlikely occurrence, that the event is prevented from running due to Covid-19 or government intervention, all ticket holders will be offered a full refund on their tickets.

## **Will my kids need to bring a lot of money with them?**

When you purchase a ticket for Satellites you purchase a ticket to the whole event, meaning there is no additional activity that will need paying for on-site. However, there are optional extras that your child/children may like to get involved with that would require a small amount of spending money. This ranges from cafés where drinks and cakes will be a few pounds each, to books, products and merchandise from The Depot - a marketplace of stalls and stands from other Christian organisations.

## **What about food at the event and transport to the event?**

Young people that attend an event like Satellites do so with a youth group, and under the care of a youth worker. It is your youth worker's responsibility as the group leader to ensure all practical requirements are taken care of, so it will be your church youth worker that will arrange food for the week and transport for your young people. However, on top of the food provided by your youth worker there will be a host of cafes onsite ranging from cakes and hot drinks to smoothies and healthier snacks. There will also be a selection of reasonably priced food vans selling hot food.

## **How do you keep everyone safe at the event?**

Safety is one of our highest priorities at Satellites and is something we take incredibly seriously. Firstly, we have a central staff team who know the venue very well and have fostered great relationships with the local site team. Secondly, we have recruited a team of fantastic volunteers ranging from police officers to doctors and nurses, safeguarding specialists and church leaders, many of whom have been part of running safe and successful Soul Survivor festivals at Peterborough, and so have that invaluable experience to bring to Satellites. When it comes to safeguarding, every volunteer at Satellites will be referenced and have a valid DBS ensuring we have the right people on team. Practically on-site, the pastoral needs of every young person will be our priority as they are cared for by our village hosts teams, dedicated pastoral teams and our mental health first aid team.

## **We don't have all the camping equipment we need and buying it is pretty expensive, how can you help?**

We've teamed up with the brilliant local company called IBEX who provide really great quality camping gear, furniture, bedding and more. They will even come and pitch tents for you! You can find out more on our website [www.wearesatellites.com/accommodation](http://www.wearesatellites.com/accommodation)

## **My kids are on the fringes of stuff at church and might find this all a bit weird, what is in place for them?**

At Satellites we aim to be really open and welcoming to young people - wherever they're from and wherever they are in their faith, from the committed life long Christians, to the young people for whom faith means nothing. Throughout the event, we're committed - in lots of differing ways and means - to meeting young people where they're at and encouraging them to explore what faith might look like to them, or how they might deepen their faith. Around the whole site, we'll have venues full of fun, creativity, good music, entertainment and activities that give young people to the opportunity to explore faith in a way that works for them, at a pace they're comfortable with.

## **My child has additional needs, what is in place to help them get the most out of the event?**

Every young person is welcome, and encouraged, to come to Satellites. We take the needs of every young person incredibly seriously and will do whatever we can to ensure every young person can engage fully with the event. From a very practical point of view, every young person with additional needs will be able to bring a carer with them to the event for free. As the spectrum of additional needs is broad, we'd be very happy to have an individual chat with anyone around our additional needs provision at Satellites to discuss arrangements that range from sensory spaces, step-free access in all venues, accessible viewing platforms, wheelchair charging, BSL interpretation in main venues and many more considerations. If you're interested in chatting to us more about how the event might work to the specific needs of your child, please drop us an email and we'll arrange a call.

## **My child will be over 18 in the summer but still wants to come with their friends, what can they do?**

One option for those young people who are in sixth form and have already turned 18 is that they join their youth group as one of the leaders. Each group will need at least one adult (18+) for every 10 under 18s in the group.

Alternatively, we would love to invite any over-18s at Satellites to join one of our teams! During the event, we'll need around 400 volunteers to help us run things well. Each team member gets a free ticket to Satellites, three meals a day and a role involved in making the event work - plus they can still camp with their church youth group (although they're also welcome to camp on the teams village with other volunteers if they prefer). It's a great way to get to meet new people too!

## **Are parents allowed to come to the event?**

As Satellites is a youth event we won't be allowing access to any adults who are not either assisting a group on-site or coming to volunteer on team. We want young people to throw themselves into everything Satellites has to offer so if parents do come to Satellites, we would ask that they engage with the church youth worker to ensure that by being on-site, they aren't impacting their child's ability to engage fully and enjoy spending time with their group and their friends.