Castleton/Cavedale Site Information



To be read in conjunction with Education Visits or Engagement Events risk assessment

Site Name: Castleton/Cavedale

Site details:

Cavedale is a limestone dale which runs in a southerly direction from the Hope Valley village of Castleton. The field site is 350 metres above sea level and approximately one kilometre from the village. Field work is conducted on the sides of the dale which have a slope angle of 35 - 40 degrees.

Meeting point:

Castleton Visitors Centre which has a car park and café

Car Park grid ref: SK 14618296. Postcode: S33 8WN. What 3 Words: groomed.irrigated.garages

Main site grid ref: SK 14638210. What 3 Words: settled.mess.prune

Mobile phone signal – Fine in Castleton, very poor in parts of Cavedale but OK on top of the slope.

Nearest landlines: Castleton

Nearest A + E: Northern General, Sheffield or Stepping Hill, Stockport

Nearest minor injury unit: Buxton

Nearest PDNP office/base: Castleton Visitor's Centre

All PDNP leaders have more emergency contact details of other colleagues/centres etc on laminated cards on their rucksack.

General Description of site (including photographs)

The survey site is a steep sided grassland valley with small outcrops of limestone which can feel exposed to some students and needs care to walk across.

Car/Coach Parking

The main car park is outside the visitor's centre and is owned by High Peak Borough Council, not the PDNPA. Change will be required. There is a designated coach parking area.

Lunchtime Information

Lunch will be taken on site and there are no hand washing facilities or toilets.

Toilet facilities

Castleton Visitor's Centre in the main Car Park.

Distance/timing between important site locations

Castleton Visitors Centre to Cave dale site 1.3 Km and 200 metres of Ascent -about 40 minutes with stops Cavedale return to visitor's centre (by an easier route). 1.6Km 30-40 minutes with stops.

Any additional specific advice/information
The walk up the dale is on a public Bridleway which is often wet and slippery and occasionall has mountain bikes
decending it! It is part of the "Limestone Way". Likewise the sides of the dale where field work is conducted can
also be slippery. For these reasons walking boots or trainers with good grip are essential. The sides of the dale are
exposed and warm wind/water proof clothes are also essential.
See Film: Ecology A level - New courses: Peak District National Park
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