

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR GLIDING INDUCTION **COURSES AT 622 VGS, UPAVON**

1. Please try to bring the correct number of allocated cadets. If this is not possible contact your Gliding Liaison Officer at Wing who will try and fill the places from another squadron. Failing that they will contact the gliding squadron so that we can offer the places to another wing.
2. Please arrive at Upavon at 0900. Finish time will depend on weather conditions, daylight hours and operational task.
3. On arrival a member of staff will be tasked to brief you on Health and Safety matters and on issues pertinent to gliding. We ask that accompanying staff attend this briefing so that they are aware of any instructions the cadets have been given and can supervise accordingly. Following this there will be a staff briefing which you are also invited to attend with the cadets.
4. Weather can often be extreme on an airfield so it is important that cadets bring appropriate clothing and equipment with them. Coveralls or combats are essential along with smooth soled shoes or boots. Hats, gloves, scarves and warm coats and jumpers are necessary in winter and in summer sunscreens, sunhats and sunglasses. Please ensure everyone attending has a packed lunch and any snacks and drinks they may require over the day.
5. It is helpful if you can prepare a list of the cadet's names and the order in which they should fly, this should usually start with those who have never flown in a glider before and finish with the most experienced and the accompanying staff. A gliding programme sheet can be obtained from the gliding squadron if you do not have one at your squadron.
6. The GIC syllabus consists of 3-5 flights or a longer flight of 20-30 minutes and covers simple flying instruction. Cadets will gain more from the experience if they already have some basic knowledge of flying control surfaces and principles of flight.
7. Cadets must be 13yrs and 3mths and have the Parents/Guardians Consent to Fly Certificate signed in their F3822 or Record of Service book to fly in a glider. To complete a GIC they must be 14yrs and 6mths and have completed their First Class Training. Cadets of 15yrs and over should be given priority. Cadets should be in good health with no pre-existing serious medical condition or any condition requiring medication. Ear or sinus problems could cause cadets to experience discomfort and/or worsening of their condition, they should not be allowed to attend for gliding. Maximum weight for a cadet without parachute is 103kg. There is no minimum but cadets below 48kg will

have to fly in the rear seat. Cadets will receive a certificate after finishing their GIC.

8. Please do not make assumptions about the weather. We understand that it is inconvenient to have to organise and drive cadets around the country when the weather does not look promising. However conditions at Upavon can improve dramatically in a short period and if it is at all possible we will be flying. Conversely if the weather deteriorates over the day we will endeavour to keep you informed and avoid your having to wait around for long periods.

9. We hope that your squadron will enjoy its visit to 622VGS. If this is not the case please bring any concerns to the Duty Instructor on the day who will attempt to rectify any problems. If you have any further concerns prior to or following your visit please do not hesitate to contact the Adjutant on 07973 337436.

Fg Off Rob Walker
Adjutant
622 VGS