



# GC NEW MEMBER GUIDANCE

Welcome to UCL Gliding Club! We know you're excited to take to the skies, but before that, here's a bit more to discover that will enhance your flying experience

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# Becoming a Member

## UCL student

1. Log into UCL student union <https://studentsunionucl.org/> with your UCL user ID, and search for "Gliding Club".
2. All the necessary links will be posted here. After buying the membership, you need to join the Facebook and WhatsApp groups to receive all the notifications regarding our activities.

**Facebook Group:** weekly sign-up form and flying schedule will be posted here.

**WhatsApp Group:** all the activities will be updated here.

Note: if you registered preferred name in UCL system, please inform our captain your real name, which match with your official ID, when you sign up for weekly flying.

The screenshot shows the UCL student union website interface. At the top, there is a purple header with the text 'gliding club' in a yellow box. Below the header, there are four main content areas: 'Pride in Sport Club Representatives', 'Gliding Club' (with a photo of a glider), 'Club Development Awards Nomination Form', and 'Sports Club Membership Feedback 2023/24'. A 'Join' button is visible on the right side of the page. Below the main content, there is a section for 'Products' with a 'View' button. The 'Products' section contains the following text: 'CLUBS AND SOCIETIES / GLIDING CLUB', 'UCL Gliding Club provides easy access to the incredible sport of gliding. Winch launch for just £12.5!', 'No experience or medical statement is required to join and instruction lessons are provided free of charge.', and two links: 'https://www.facebook.com/groups/392999153804587' and 'https://chat.whatsapp.com/IXaCmCPfK7c5WmFVV'. On the right side, there is a 'Join' button and a 'Your e-mail address \*' field.

## Non-UCL student/alumni

You need to create a UCL student union account through <https://studentsunionucl.org/user/register> before buying our membership. After you become member of UCL GC, please contact captain directly for weekly sign-up.

### Non-UCL accounts (users without current UCL accounts)

Non-UCL accounts can be created for alumni or other users who do not have current UCL accounts e.g. shop customers, associate members, volunteering administrators, JobShop employers, and any other visitors and guests.

#### Create a non-UCL account

#### Login by username/email address \*

You can use your username or email address to login.

#### Password \*

Log in

# How to sign up

Weekly sign-up form will be released on Tuesday midday, and closes at 12PM on Thursday, in our Facebook group. Please sign in with your UCL account to fill the form (please contact captain directly if you are non-UCL student/alumni). The form requires you to indicate your weekend availability, flying experience level.



Hello everyone!

Please find below this weeks sign-up form.

- As a reminder, priority goes to early submissions, so please fill out the form as soon as possible to have the best chance at getting a slot.
- Priority will also go to people who have signed up on previous weeks, but were not selected.

Sign-Up for this Weekend:

<https://forms.office.com/e/NcshjuWsrD>

DETAILS:

- You will need to sign-in with your UCL account (alumni/ associate members please contact me).
- Please indicate if you're available to fly this weekend.
- Let us know if you've flown with us before, and if so when.
- Remember, the form closes at 12 PM on Thursday

[forms.office.com](https://forms.office.com)  
[forms.office.com](https://forms.office.com)

What days are you available to go flying? \*

This is your availability for this coming weekend.

Saturday

Sunday

Have you been gliding before? \*

This includes outside of the UCL gliding club.

Yes

No

When did you last go gliding? \*

Please enter the date.

请输入日期(yyyy/M/d)

What is your experience level? \*

So we know we have the right instructors available.

Only a few flights

Priority will be assigned to early submissions, first time flyers, and those who got slot cancelled last week due to weather conditions.

Weekend flying schedule will be released on Friday in both Facebook and WhatsApp groups, as it requires time for CGC to coordinate instructor and confirm several key factors including weather. After you got selected for this weekend, please join your day's flying WhatsApp group to confirm you attendance.

If it's your first time flying, you need to fill in the CGC Trial Lesson Membership Form through <https://form.jotform.com/CGCMembershipSec/CGC-Temporary-Form> (link will also be posted in the whatsapp group)



WEEKEND FLYING SCHEDULE

Hello everyone!

please find below this week's flying schedule. It's looking like clear skies this weekend.

SATURDAY:

- 
- 
- 

Reserve flyer:



SUNDAY:

- 
- 
- 

Reserve flyer:

N/A

NEXT STEPS TO CONFIRM YOUR SLOT:

- **Join Your Day's WhatsApp Group:** To confirm your attendance, please join the respective WhatsApp group for your flying day. If you are unable to join, please send me a message on WhatsApp so I can add you.
- **Saturday Group:** <https://chat.whatsapp.com/GUDFMqEUFPJH9PSUbfL2xE>
- **Sunday Group:** <https://chat.whatsapp.com/C5EPXvebSlr2czRCgin->

# What to Prepare

## Photo ID

Upon arriving at the train station, you must sign in at the RAF Guardroom before proceeding to the airfield. Always carry a valid form of ID (passport, EU National ID card, driver's license, BRP). Please note that UCL student ID is not accepted. If you registered a preferred name in the UCL system, ensure you have informed our captain your real name when you sign up, as the name you use to sign in must match with your official ID.

## Food and Plenty of Water

There are no stores or vending machines near the airfield, so please bring your lunch. The sun at the airfield can be strong, so make sure to bring enough water to stay hydrated.

## Sunglasses

Sunglasses are essential for visibility in strong sunlight. If you wear prescription glasses, ensure that your sunglasses also have the correct prescription to prevent any vision-related issues.

## Hat

A hat is recommended for sunny weather. However, if your hat has a protrusion on top, **DO NOT** wear it in the glider. A collision with the canopy during the flight could break your skull.

## High Factor Suncream

The UV index is usually high when the weather is favorable for gliding. To avoid sunburn, it's highly recommended to bring sunscreen or apply it beforehand.

## Power Bank

You'll be at the airfield for most of the day, and there are no charging facilities. Bringing a power bank is a good idea to keep your devices powered.

## Extra Layer

Although the weather may be pleasant during the day, it can be chilly in the morning and evening. Additionally, the wind at the airfield can be strong. Bring a thick jacket or sweater to keep warm. You may want to remove these layers before getting into the glider, as it can get warm inside once the canopy is closed.



## Getting to the Airfield

It's recommended that you arrive at the airfield by 9:30 a.m. to prepare for the upcoming flying. Here's how you can get there:

1. Take the 7:57 AM Chiltern Railways service from Marylebone station to Wendover. Direction is usually towards Aylesbury. Booking an open return ticket is recommended, as it's more flexible in terms of return time, as well as making the overall journey cheaper. A railcard is always useful, so if you have one, please use it. All the available train can be found on app Trainpal, Trainline, Trip, etc.

Sometimes (usually Sunday) the direct train to Wendover will be cancelled and replaced partly by bus. In this case, take the 7:42 Chiltern Railways service from London Marylebone to oxford, and change to rail placement bus to Wendover in Beaconsfield. Please note that railway services will be reduced to one train per hour on Sundays, so plan your trip in advance to avoid long waits at the station.

2. Once at Wendover station, you have to sign in at the RAF Guardroom first. Please remember to bring an acceptable form of I.D. (Passport, EU National ID Cards, Driving licenses).

You can find the location of this guardroom by googling RAF HAA on google maps, or clicking this link: [https://maps.app.goo.gl/DnwTNJ5WY4N3ivPB9?g\\_st=ic](https://maps.app.goo.gl/DnwTNJ5WY4N3ivPB9?g_st=ic). To get there, you're presented with 2 choices:

- Book a taxi service to the guardroom: it should be relatively cheap separated with your group. The numbers of the companies are as follows:

- Alexanders Taxis (Wendover) 01296 620 888)
- ABC Taxis ( Aylesbury) 01296 423 232)
- Taffs Cabs 01296 395003
- Falcon Taxis 01296 520 000

-Else, if the day is nice, you can choose to walk there. It is a really easy and nice walk to the guardroom and then to the airfield, but please remember not to be too slow either.

< London Marylebone → Wendover

Sun 18 Aug | 1 | Open Return From

Fastest 07:57 | Cheapest 08:46 | £14.80

Save £0.35 | £15.15

Chilternrailways by am10 | Off-Peak

Plat.2 | 49m, direct | View stops >

- 07:42 London Marylebone  
Platform 3  
Chiltern Railways · C15611  
Train to Oxford  
Coach any, Seat any
- 08:08 Beaconsfield  
Platform 2  
7m Change at Beaconsfield
- 08:15 Beaconsfield  
Chiltern Railways · S34294  
Coach any, Seat any
- 08:55 Wendover





3. Once you've signed in the guardroom, head to the airfield. You can find the location RAFGSA Chilterns Gliding Club on google map or click the link [https://maps.app.goo.gl/gaYmNpMMU3Y8SyLJ9?g\\_st=ic](https://maps.app.goo.gl/gaYmNpMMU3Y8SyLJ9?g_st=ic). The walk from the guardroom should be a nice walk of about 10 or so minutes.



# At the Airfield

## Before flying

Upon arriving at the airfield, please find the instructors to confirm your attendance. The morning briefing begins around 9:30 a.m., covering the daily plan and weather details. To prepare for the day's flying, we need to clean the gliders and ensure they are in optimal condition. **Gliders are made of lightweight materials to maximize performance, making them relatively fragile and in need of gentle care.** If this is your first time flying, please inform the instructors and follow their guidance to avoid any damage.

For specific instructions, such as how to properly enter the glider and wear a parachute, please ask the instructors for a demonstration.

To ensure your own safety, please strictly follow the [Mandatory Safety Rules and Medical Notes](#) and [Safety Brief](#).

## After flying

Once all the flying sessions are completed, please return everything to its original condition:

- 1. Return and Clean the Glider**

Place the glider back in the storehouse and clean it. Bugs and stains from the day's flights should be removed to maintain visibility and ensure optimal performance.

- 2. Check Accessories and Return Parachutes**

Check the parachutes and return them to their respective packages. Make sure to put the black boxes on charge.

- 3. Cover the Gliders**

Ensure that the glider covers are put on.

The flying day concludes after all tidy-up procedures are completed. If you wish to record your flying data, please consult the instructors.

You do not need to return your pass to the guard room; you can head directly to Wendover Station. Keep your pass with you, as it can be exchanged for a new one if you forget your ID next time.



## MANDATORY SAFETY and MEDICAL NOTES

**This page is for you to keep for your information**

Although gliding is one of the safest of the "adventurous aviation" sports - accidents although rare, can happen. It is important that you are aware that gliding is a potentially dangerous activity and therefore flying in a glider is not as safe as flying in a commercial airliner.

We are not qualified to express an opinion confirming your fitness to fly and you must ensure that you are fit to fly on each occasion. You must not fly if you are suffering from any serious medical condition or have recently undergone surgery unless you have a certificate of your fitness to fly from your doctor. You must not fly if you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY WHAT FOLLOWS AND SIGN A MEMBERSHIP FORM BEFORE YOU GO FLYING.**

### **Age Limits**

Children under the age of 18 will require a parent's or guardian's written consent and if under 16 must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or other nominated adult while at the airfield. There is no upper age limit. Children under the age of 14 will be able to fly at the discretion of the instructor conducting the lesson.

### **Sizes and Weights**

If you are heavier than 16 stones 4 lbs (228lb or 103kg) you may not be able to fly in our gliders as most gliders have a pilot weight limit of 242 lb or 110kg for each seat, which includes the weight of the parachute (15lb or 7kg). Very tall or very small people (over 6'4"/193cm or under 5'/152cm) may not be able to fly in our gliders. Please seek advice from a club official.

### **Parking**

Please note that your car insurance may not be valid while driven or parked on the airfield.

### **Alcohol**

Even the most moderate drinker should be aware that the Railways & Transport Safety Act makes it an offence for pilots, including glider pilots, to fly while over the prescribed limit for alcohol.

The Law is very clear on this and applies to you even for a trial lesson flight.

**IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO FLY IN A GLIDER WITH AN ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION IN YOUR BLOOD EXCEEDING 20mg per 100ml.**

**This is ¼ of the Drink/Drive limit and is effectively a zero tolerance limit!**

This means:

- No alcohol within 8 hours before flying; no more than 5 units for a man, 3 units for a woman, in the 12 hours before your flight
- 1 unit is ½ a pint of ordinary strength (3.6%) beer or ½ a standard glass of 12% wine
- It takes an hour to absorb one unit of alcohol so if you have consumed a substantial amount during the 24 hours before your flight you could still be over the limit.

## MEDICAL INFORMATION

When flying under instruction, you will be doing so with a suitably qualified pilot. There are medical requirements that individuals need to satisfy before they fly solo. This does not apply to pilots under instruction.

The following conditions may cause difficulty while flying. If you suffer from any of these, particularly the more serious conditions, it may be wise to obtain medical opinion.

Blackouts from any cause	Ear disease
Epilepsy	Defective vision
Severe head injury	Migraine
Recurrent fainting or giddiness	Diabetes of any form
High blood pressure	Kidney stones
Angina	Psychiatric disorders
Coronary artery disease	Severe motion or travel sickness
Bronchitis	Other conditions requiring treatment with drugs
Asthma	
Sinus disease	

In addition, pregnancy, minor illnesses, drugs and the donation of blood may make you temporarily unfit to fly and you should seek medical advice before doing so.

### **For your comfort in flight and on the airfield**

Airfields are exposed places; often colder than you might expect, so be prepared to add an extra layer! Please don't wear a skirt if you are intending to fly.

In warm weather, you will need plenty to drink, high factor sun cream and a hat.

Try to avoid drinking diuretics such as tea, coffee and coca-cola for a couple of hours before flying as it would be a shame to have to cut your flying short to answer a call of nature.

For those who suffer from motion or travel sickness, you may be interested to know that many pilots achieve relief from their symptoms by wearing acupressure wrist bands.

**If you have any questions during your visit, please just ask and someone should be only too pleased to assist you.**

## RAFGSA CHILTERN'S GLIDING CLUB VISITOR'S INFORMATION BRIEF

Welcome to the Chilterns Gliding Club (CGC). The following document briefly outlines what you can expect from your visit to the airfield and a few aspects we would like you to know.

Prior to your visit you should have arranged a date and time for your visit when you made contact via the Club website. Please do not just turn up adhoc as we may not be able to accommodate you.

### **What to expect on the day?**

A warm welcome from our club members followed by an enjoyable and memorable glider flight with one of our experienced instructors.

Please view our **information video** found on the Chilterns Gliding Club website under Learn to glide/Info for your first visit. Here we explain what you might expect not only from your visit to the airfield, but also your flight in a glider! <https://www.chilternsgc.co.uk/infofags>

There are limited facilities once on the airfield, so bring drink and food with you. Also think about the weather; it can get very cold in the winter so bring additional warm clothing. It can also get very warm on a summers day so bring plenty of water and sunscreen!

Toilets are available for use in our hangar. If you need to use them and you are already at the launch point, please ask one of the club members to escort you or drive you to the hangar. Please do not just walk to the hangar un-escorted.

You will also need to **bring some photo ID** as all civilian visitors must register with the RAF Halton Passes and Permits office in the main Guard Room. (See the photograph below for location). Service personnel must carry their military ID card.

Having been directed to the airfield car park, either walk to our hangar (No.2 Hangar photograph below) or if we are already flying, please telephone the Duty Instructor or Duty Pilot on 07971 282068. A club member will collect you.

Please do not just wander onto the airfield without being escorted by a CGC club member.

### **Safety Information**

The CGC has a legal obligation to ensure that, so far as reasonably practical, visitors do not come to any harm.

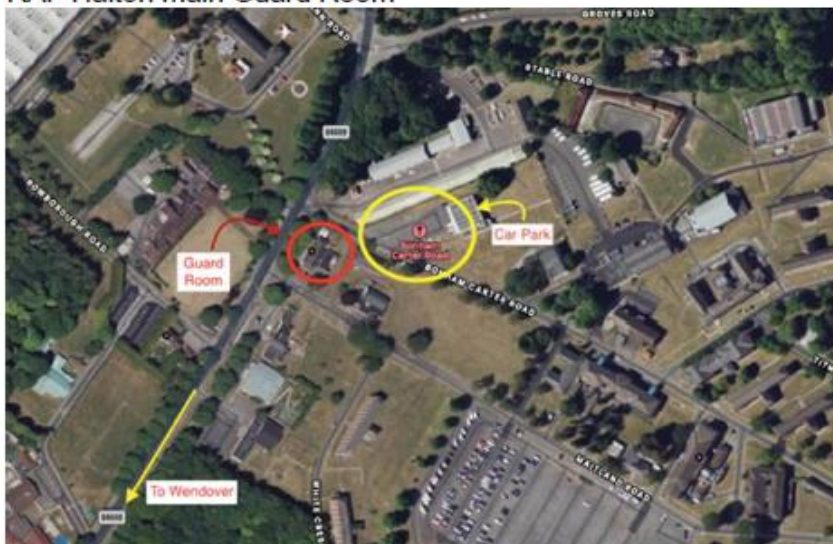
As a visitor to the Club, you also have a duty of care and to avoid harming others by your actions or omissions. Please therefore observe the following guidelines:

- Keep a good lookout at all times - gliders and aircraft may approach from any direction when taxiing, landing or taking off.
- Give way to gliders and aircraft when you are walking or driving on the airfield.
- Comply with safety instructions given to you by club members or military personnel.
- Do not touch aircraft, gliders, launch equipment/machinery or cables without permission.
- Do not walk in front of aircraft or gliders.
- Stand clear of propellers whether they are rotating or even stationary.
- Stay to the rear of the launch point until escorted to your glider.

## RAFGSA CHILTERNES GLIDING CLUB VISITOR'S INFORMATION BRIEF

- Control your children (note that pets are not permitted on the airfield).
- Ask a club member to direct you when crossing any part of the airfield.
- Do not smoke or use E-cigarettes on the airfield or, in any building or aircraft.
- Comply with the RAF Halton Site Rules.

### RAF Halton main Guard Room



### CGC Hangar (2) – First on the right after you go through the white gate



We hope you have a very enjoyable experience with us at the Chilternes Gliding Club and we look forward to welcoming you back very soon.

Martin Langford  
Chief Flying Instructor  
Chilternes Gliding Club  
[www.chilternsgc.co.uk](http://www.chilternsgc.co.uk)

**Welcome to UCL Gliding Club**  
**Hope you enjoy soaring through the**  
**sky**