

Edgehill Gliding Centre Ltd,
Shenington Airfield,
Rattlecombe Road,
Shenington, Banbury,
Oxon,
OX15 6NY

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome! *Edgehill Gliding Centre Ltd (EGC) ('the Club')* warmly welcomes you and your child to the wonderful world of gliding.

What is on Offer. Thank you for showing an interest in the Club and considering using us to provide your child with the opportunity to learn to glide. This letter, along with the attached Code of Conduct, aims to provide you with a broad overview of our activities, what the Club expects from you and your child and, in return, what the Club endeavours to deliver to your child. Importantly, the Code of Conduct also identifies what the Club cannot offer your child.

Gliding Instruction. The Club provides opportunities for young people between the ages of 12 and 18 to receive coaching and instruction, to fly solo (when 14 or older) and, eventually, to take part in competitions. You can be confident that all coaching and instruction is given by qualified instructors who are trained and have been screened for their suitability for working with young people.

Physical Requirements. By necessity, gliders are designed to be flown by individuals who meet specific minimum and maximum physical characteristics; put simply, the pilots must be heavy enough to permit the safe operation of the glider and they must be tall enough to be strapped in safely and to see out. To put numbers on this, glider pilots need to be close to 1.5m (5 feet) tall and weigh at least 45kg (98 lbs). Importantly, personal physical challenges do not by themselves prohibit an individual from gliding – it is often possible to adapt a glider to facilitate safe and enjoyable operation by those who have less than the usual range of movement. Therefore, if your child falls into this category, do not hesitate to enquire about the Club's ability to accommodate them.

The Flying Experience and Personal Development. First and foremost, the Club sees flight safety as its highest priority. As such, the Club will do all it can to ensure your child is safe whilst involved in flying activities, both on the ground and in the air. Safety awareness starts with a briefing that points out the immediate hazards associated with gliding. Thereafter, further briefings are given at appropriate junctures as an integral part of building the skills and knowledge required to ultimately fly a glider solo. When your child is aged 14 or over, has covered the training syllabus and a suitably qualified instructor deems that their flying and judgement has reached an appropriate level, then they will be sent solo. You will be most welcome to attend and witness this milestone event! As with all glider pilots, the development of your child's safety awareness is a life-long process that the Club will nurture up to, during and beyond the first solo stage.

Supervision. Please be assured that the Club has a strong ethos of Child Protection with well-defined Policies and Procedures to ensure that, when at the

gliding site and participating in gliding activities, your child's learning activity will be conducted within a welcoming environment and a culture of safety. However, it is important that you understand that the Club is unable to provide supervision outside of gliding-related activities. Apart from the start of a pre-booked course, there is no-one within the Club who checks that a young person has arrived and who accepts a degree of responsibility for them. So, when your child is not flying, they may wish to go to the clubhouse, return home, or pursue other activities with friends. In any of these instances, the Club does not and cannot supervise your child. Nevertheless, it is recommended that you establish an agreement with your child to have them keep you informed of their location and intentions (using phone, text or other messaging system) once they have left the direct supervision offered whilst involved in gliding.

Child Protection. The Club's robust Child Protection Policy is published in a document that you are encouraged to download from the Club's website. Importantly, the Club has appointed both a Child Protection Officer and a Deputy Child Protection Officer from within its membership. If, sadly, your child has an issue or concern attributed to their time gliding, no matter how trivial it may appear on the surface, they or you are highly encouraged to contact either officer at the earliest opportunity using the Club's dedicated Child Protection email address (childprotection@edgehillgliding.com). Further details about the incumbents can be found in the Child Protection Policy document described above.

Code of Conduct. To ensure that all parties are clear on what is expected, the Club has developed a Code of Conduct; two copies are attached to this letter. This summarises what you and your child can expect from the Club. The Code continues by listing what the Club expects from both yourself and the young glider pilot. You are asked to read the Code, along with your child, and discuss the implications of its contents between you.

The Friendly Club. The Club's instructors and members very much look forward to providing your child with a memorable gliding experience. We are confident that your child will learn new skills, enhance their self-confidence and enjoy life-empowering experiences.

The Agreement. So, if you are content with what is on offer and the Club's Code of Conduct, and would like us to train your child, we ask that you **sign one copy of the Code of Conduct** and **return it to the Club** in advance of your child undertaking gliding activities.

Happy gliding, smooth landings!



SIGNED:

NAME: Jon Carlton

POSITION: Company Secretary and Director, EGC