**Forest Hill Church HS Drive 2025 Parent** **Packet**

Dear Parents,

We are excited to host your high school student for this year’s Drive Retreat! Drive will be held the weekend of March 14-16th at Crowders Ridge, right by Crowders Mountain in Gastonia, NC. We pray this will be a weekend to remember for your high school student. This will be a fantastic opportunity for your student to connect with their BridgeGroup and other students from all campuses within Youth. We are looking forward to how God is going to use this weekend!

This packet includes helpful information for this weekend. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact the Trip and Event Team at any time. You can reach them at: [nextgenevents@foresthill.org](mailto:nextgenevents@foresthill.org).

Please be sure you go over the material in this packet with your student so they understand what to expect for the weekend. We also ask that you please be diligent in completing your students’ waiver to ensure we are fully prepared for your student’s arrival to check in. **Waivers should be completed no later than Friday, March 9th (further info below).**

Our prayer is that this weekend students would take a next step in their relationship with Jesus and connect with a community of believers. Would you join us in praying and believing what the Lord is going to do this weekend in the life of your student.

Thank you for believing with us,

Next Gen Drive Team

**Drive** **FAQ’s**

**Where** **and when is Check-in for Drive?**

New this year there will be no busses to Crowder’s Ridge. (30 Camp Rotary Rd, Gastonia, NC 28052) Drop off time will be assigned by grade.

9th Grade – 6:30

10th Grade – 6:45

11th Grade – 7:00

12th grade – 7:15

When you arrive at Crowder’s Ridge, be sure to look for signs directing the way. A staff member will greet you and help guide you through the check-in process

**Should my student have dinner before Check-in?**

Yes, we will not be providing dinner on Friday night for students.

**What** **if** **my** **student** **needs** **to** **take** **medication** **while** **at** **Drive?**

To ensure everyone’s safety, all medications, vitamins, supplements, etc. must be turned in at check-in. *Pending a completed Medication Authorization Form*, students will be able to keep insulin, epi pens, and inhalers on them over the weekend.

We will have two registered nurses on the trip with us to administer over the counter medications. Students should not bring common over the counter medications as the nurses have these available for students as needed.

We’ve included a medication authorization form in this packet. Please be sure to print and complete this form **BEFORE ARRIVAL** and turn in **AT THE TIME OF CHECK-IN ONLY** if your student has medication to take during Drive. Please do NOT send this form in ahead of time! Students with medication will be directed to our nurse at the time of check in.

[Medical Authorization Form](https://foresthill.app.box.com/s/etjbacapalmoxxw603dbws71sntu0p06) (Please print & complete)

**What do I need to bring to Check-in?**

Waiver:

* Please complete Crowder’s Waiver **ONLINE** before arriving to Check-in
* [Click Here](https://www.crowderscamps.com/register) to complete the waiver.
  + Under “Crowders Ridge,” select WAIVERS button
  + Use the code **25foresthill**

Medications (if applicable):

* All medications including supplements and/or vitamins, need to be brought in their original package or container. Place containers/bottles in a resealable plastic bag and label with the participant’s full name.
* Printed Medical Authorization Form (See above for link)

**When** **do** **I** **find** **out** **who** **my** **student** **is** **rooming** **with?**

Official rooming lists will be available at check-in. If you included a roommate preference on the registration, it will greatly be taken into consideration as we put housing assignments together.

**What** **are** **the** **sleeping** **arrangements?**

Crowder's Ridge has large cabins with several rooms in each cabin, and bunk beds in each room. Students will be rooming with other students, and leaders will be present to chaperone. **Cabins do not include bedding. Your student will need bed linens and pillow.**

**Who** **are** **the** **leaders?**

A team of Group leaders who currently serve at all of our campuses will serve as leaders for the weekend. Students will be assigned to a Group with other students and one to two leaders for the weekend. Our leader/student ratio is 1:8. We will also have a team of Forest Hill staff, college work crew volunteers, as well as two registered nurses for the weekend. All of our volunteers are background checked and go through training prior to the weekend.

**What is the policy about electronics and cell phones?**

We would like to encourage as much screen free time as possible over the weekend, with that in mind cell phones are allowed, but within free time and meal times. Please keep in mind cell reception is very limited so you may not hear from your student. In an emergency, please contact one of our Trip Leaders (contact info listed below).

**What** **does** **a** **day** **at Drive** **look** **like?**

A daily schedule is included in this packet. Students will have a mix of program time, games, Group time, and free time throughout the weekend.

**Should** **I** **send** **my** **student** **with** **any** **money?**

Crowder's Ridge has a snack bar and a gift shop that will be available for students to purchase items during free time. **PLEASE BRING ONES ONLY** as we cannot guarantee change!!

**What** **about** **the** **food?**

Meals will be served in the Crowder's Ridge dining room. Each meal is balanced and a variety of foods are offered. Any food allergies/dietary restrictions must be included on the registration. We will have specific food options for those with allergies/dietary restrictions.

**Can** **I** **send** **my** **student** **with** **snacks?**

We are allowing students to bring snacks, but we ask that **all snacks must be nut-free**. We have a number of students with food allergies attending the camp and want to make sure we keep everyone safe. We will also have snacks available for students to purchase at camp that are allergy friendly.

**Are** **there** **rules** **at** **Drive?**

Here are our general rules...please go over them with your student before coming to camp.

1. Boys and girls are not to go into each other's cabins for any reason.

2. Cell phones are allowed during free time, but keep in mind there is no WIFI and reception is spotty at camp. We want to be as screen free as possible.

3. Students are required to attend all activities, program, Group times and meals.

4. Students are never to go anywhere alone (including cabins).

5. Students are expected to treat peers, leaders and staff with kindness and respect. Any student who shows physical violence, bullying, or theft will be sent home immediately.

6. Any damage done by a student to the facilities is the sole responsibility of the student and their parents.

7. Any student who chooses to bring drugs of any kind (including, but not limited to: vapes, cigarettes, e-cigarettes), alcohol, weapons or bad behavior will be immediately sent home at the expense of their parents.

Parents – please talk to your student about using appropriate language. There are many words out there that might be ok in your household, but in others, it is not. Key thought: if you have to ask if it’s ok, then it’s probably not. Please encourage your students to think about the words they use and to keep their language clean.

**What does my student need to bring?**

A packing list is enclosed, but typical overnight items, including all linens/towels.

**What activities are available to students for the weekend?**

Giant swing, Leap of Faith, Paintball, Volleyball, Gaga ball, Basketball, and more!

**Where do I pick my student up?**

Students need to be picked up at **10:45am at Crowder’s Ridge**.

**Packing** **List**

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT** **ITEMS-** **Sleeping** **bag/Linens,** **pillow,** **Bible, Journal, Refillable Water Bottle\*\*\***

**Clothes**

\_\_\_\_ Pants or jeans

\_\_\_\_ Shorts

\_\_\_\_ Shirts (short and long sleeve)

\_\_\_\_ Sweatshirt and/or Jacket

\_\_\_\_ Raingear (poncho, rain jacket)

\_\_\_\_ Socks

\_\_\_\_ Underwear

\_\_\_\_ Hat/bandanas

\_\_\_\_ Flip-flops/Shower Shoes

\_\_\_\_ Tennis shoes

**Toiletries**

\_\_\_\_ Toothbrush

\_\_\_\_ Toothpaste

\_\_\_\_ Shampoo/Conditioner

\_\_\_\_ Soap/Body Wash

\_\_\_\_ Deodorant

\_\_\_\_ Face Wash

\_\_\_\_ Bug Spray

**Miscellaneous**

\_\_\_\_ Bible with Journal and Pen

\_\_\_\_ Reusable Water Bottle

\_\_\_\_ Pillow and Twin Linens/Sleeping Bag (there are no linens provided)

\_\_\_\_ Washcloth and Towel

\_\_\_\_ Flashlight

\_\_\_\_ Hair dryer

\_\_\_\_ Spending money (for snack bar and gift shop)

\_\_\_\_ Backpack. Cabins will be locked during free time (leaders will have keys). Students will need to keep whatever they want available on their person during the day.

**PLEASE LABEL ITEMS IN CASE OF LOST & FOUND**

**Weekend Schedule:**

**Friday:**

6:30-7:15pm – Arrive Crowder’s Ridge

8:15pm – Student Rally

8:30pm – Program

9:30pm – Bridge Groups

10:30pm – Late Night Activity

11:30pm - Back to Cabins

**Saturday:**

8:30am - Bible Study (optional)

9:30am – Breakfast

10:30am – Student Rally

10:45am - Program

12:00pm – Life Group

12:45pm – Lunch

1:30pm - Mobilization

3:00pm - Free Time

6:00pm – Dinner

6:45 – Freetime/College 101 for Seniors

7:15 – Student Rally

7:30pm - Program

9:00pm – Life Group

9:45 – Late Night Activity

11:30pm - Back to Cabins

**Sunday:**

7:30 am – Bible Study (optional)

8:00am - Breakfast

8:45am - Program

9:45am – Life Group

10:15am – Pack Up

10:45am – Pick up at Crowder’s Ridge

**Emergency Contact**

Students will have access to their phones if they would like, but reception is spotty on campus. In the case of an emergency or if you need to reach your student for any reason over the weekend please feel free to call us. Brett Wolfe is our parent contact for the weekend, and would be happy to help connect you to your student. Also listed is the Crowder's Ridge address and phone number.

**Brett Wolfe**

518-929-7627

[Brett.wolfe@ForestHill.org](mailto:Roland.Chandler@ForestHill.org)

**Crowder's Ridge**

130 Camp Rotary Rd

Gastonia, NC 28052

704-915-1096