



Scottish Schools Orienteering Association



Scottish Schools Orienteering Festival 2023 2nd June Callendar Park

Final Details



Welcome

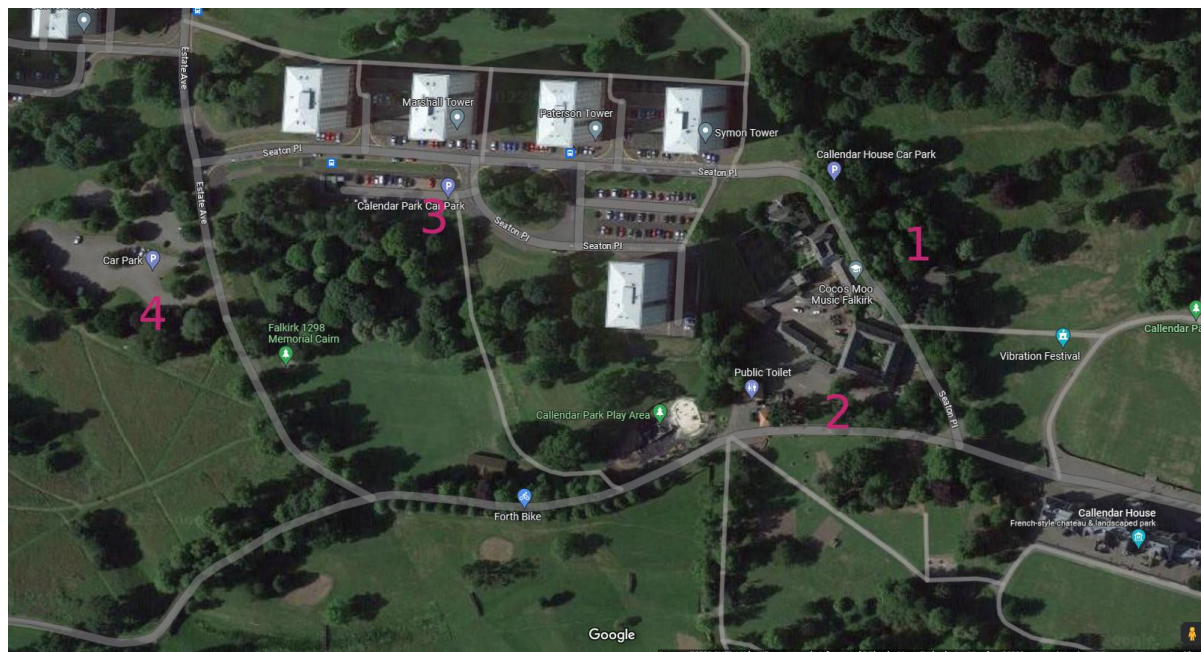
Welcome to everyone who is attending this year's Scottish Schools Orienteering Festival. Many thanks to Falkirk council for allowing us to use the Callendar Park as this year's venue. Thanks to Graeme High School for allowing us to use their bus parking for coaches.

Please read over these final details as they contain all the information on what is happening on the day.

Parking and arrival

Pupil Start times are between 10-12. Please ensure your school arrives at least 40 mins before your schools first start time. Schools generally start arriving at the festival from 9:20.

Car Parking is available at 4 different car parks around Callendar Park. A marshall will be at the corner of Estate Avenue and Seaton Place to direct you to the appropriate car park. Minibuses will park in these car parks.



Coach Parking is at Graeme High School. If arriving by coach please **do not arrive before 9:20**. This is to allow time for the school buses to depart. Coaches are not allowed to arrive or leave between 12:20- 1pm as this is the school lunch break. **Please confirm with us if you plan on arriving by coach as there is limited coach parking.** There will be a marshal to help with coach parking. The route between the coach parking and Callender park will be marked and marshalled.

All groups should make their way to the lawn in front of Callendar House. Each school can choose an area to assemble. A teacher or guardian from each group should collect the dibbers for their group. Maps will be given to pupils at the start.

We will aim to have the awards ceremony at 13:00. The festival will be finished by 13:45 at the latest.

What to bring

Children should be advised to wear comfortable shoes, ideally trainers, and a waterproof coat if wet weather is possible. We advise pupils to wear full leg cover particularly those on more difficult courses. A compass will not be needed. Schools may want to consider

bringing a pop-up tent to put bags and coats in while the children are participating in the activities.

Pupils should bring water, a snack and a packed lunch. There is a coffee van in the park which may be open and a cafe inside of Callendar House.

Toilets/ hygiene

Toilets are inside of Callendar House. There are also toilets in the park. Hand sanitizer will be available at the start and finish.

Programme of events

9.20am onwards- Arrival

9:20am onwards- Orienteering games and activities

10:00- The first pupils start times

12:00- The last pupil start times

1:00- Prize Giving

1:30- Picnic Lunch and Departure

Throughout the day there will be orienteering games and activities for pupils to try. Pupils can try the games and activities whilst waiting for their start times or waiting for classmates to get back from their course.



Courses

At the festival every pupil will do an orienteering course individually or in a pair. The course which pupils complete will depend on their year group. Courses are planned to a suitable difficulty and away from areas where pupils may go off the map.

Each pair will have an electronic 'dibber' and a map. The dibbers will be handed out within the school group by the teachers. Please check the correct dibber number goes to the correct child, as per the provided list. Lost dibbers cost £30, so please make sure that pupils attach them to their finger securely with the elastic strap.

Pupils should arrive at the start with their dibbers 5-10 mins before their allocated start time. Pupils allocated start time can be found on the [Scottish School Orienteering Associations website](https://www.ssoa.org.uk/). There will be volunteers at the start who will ensure pupils start at the correct time and help pupils get started with their course. Pupils will then go round their course 'dibbing' each control in the correct order till they get to the finish. If a pupil misses a control they will be given a 5 minute penalty. After finishing their course all pupils **must download**. This is how we will know that everyone has returned from the woods. From the finish pupils will be directed to download.



Prize Giving

There will be a prize giving at 1:00. Live results will be available throughout the day www.ssoa.org.uk/results/2023/. **Please remember to return any trophies from last year.**



Health and Safety

Teachers will remain responsible for the pupils in their group for the duration of the event except when on their orienteering course. We will have volunteer 'catchers' at the far end of the orienteering courses to ensure that pupils do not leave the area. Any road crossings will be marshalled. We will check if all children have returned from their course.

The controls have been planned so that pupils don't need to go close to deep water and avoid areas of difficult to cross undergrowth. Tape will be over substantial tree routes on beginner courses.

There may be ticks at Callendar Park. We therefore ask everyone to wear full leg coverage.

Please can all participants take their litter home with them. Please pick up anything which has been accidentally dropped.

Cancellations

This is an outdoor event, and subject to the vagaries of the weather. If the forecast the day before is awful the event will be cancelled. We will inform schools of the cancellation by 2pm the day before.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Falkirk council for allowing us to use Callendar Park as a venue. Thanks to the

Forth Valley Orienteers for letting us use their map. Thanks to all the volunteers.

Organiser: Heidi Ross and Blair Young

Planner: Steve Scott

Controller: Roger Scrutton

