

*Here are some frequently asked questions.*

### **Where does the jump take place?**

Skydive Headcorn  
Headcorn Aerodrome  
Shenley Road  
Headcorn Kent  
TN27 9HX

### **What time should I get there?**

Arrival times vary and your confirmation letter will have your actual arrival time.

### **What time will I jump?**

*Headcorn Parachute Club's* scheduled flying times are **from 9.00 am weekends and Public holidays 10.00am Wednesday to Friday and 1pm Tuesdays**. We jump all day **until it gets dark**, or we run out of people. On our busiest days we make up to **22 flights**.

When you arrive, you will need to register at the **Tandem Meeting Point**. Once this is done, we jump people in the order that they register, and we try to do this as fairly as possible. We aim to have you at the centre for as short as time as possible please allow 4-6 hours from your arrival time just in case.

### **How many people go up in the plane?**

*Headcorn Parachute Club* operates a 14 place Cessna Caravan and each tandem takes up two places (or three if you have booked for a cameraman to jump with you). There is not enough room to take more than five tandem pairs in the aircraft. However, the number of tandems that go up on any flight depends on many factors.

On busy days we may have **forty** people booked for tandem jumps and up to eight instructors available. Each instructor will jump with five or six people. After each jump he/she will have to pack their parachute. If you are part of a group, then we may jump singles below you in the queue first and we may prioritise people who have previously been to the centre and not been able to jump due to weather.

### **I just want one photo is this possible?**

To have any photos taken, you have to hire a cameraman to jump with you. All our cameramen jump with two cameras one for video and one for stills. Therefore, you are paying to hire the cameraman and whether they take one picture or 50 it is the same price.

### **Can I jump with my own camera?**

**British Skydiving** regulations do not permit novice skydivers to jump with any additional equipment including cameras.

## **The weather forecast is bad do I have to attend?**

Skydiving is a weather dependent sport. We must be able to see the landing area before exiting the aircraft, so we can cope with some cloud, but if it is completely solid and the base of it very low this will prevent us jumping. The highest gust of wind can be no more than 20 knots.

Weather may be unsuitable first thing but improve as the day goes on and vice versa. By making a booking you are booking our services for the day, and we want to make the most of any weather opportunities. However, there are occasions when we will email you the day before or on the day for later arrivals and suggest that you do not attend the centre. We will not make any weather decisions more than one day in advance. If the weather does prevent your jump from taking place you must come back within six months, or you will incur extra fees.

## **What is the best time of year to jump?**

We jump throughout the year and it is the luck of the draw with weather on any day. The only real difference between Summer and Winter is the temperature and the amount of daylight hours available.

## **Why is there a weight restriction?**

For safety reasons our general weight limit fully clothed is **86kg (13½ stone)**. However, this limit is proportional to height.

A lower weight limit of **80kg (12st 9lbs)** applies to someone who is **1.57m (5' 2")** or shorter. However, if you are **1.72m (5' 7")** or taller; our **absolute** limit is **92kg (14½ stone)**.

You may be weighed during registration. We reserve the right to refuse your jump if you exceed these limits.

Please refer to the table below for suggested maximum height to weight ratios. If you exceed these limits but are under the limits published above we will still accept you, but you are accepting a **greater risk of injury**.

Height Feet	Height Metres	Weight Stones	Weight Kg
4' 10"	1.47	9.5	60.32
4' 11"	1.49	9.9	62.86
5' 0"	1.52	10	63.50
5' 1"	1.55	10.5	66.67
5' 2"	1.57	10.10	68.03
5' 3"	1.60	11.1	70.30
5' 4"	1.62	11.6	72.57
5' 5"	1.65	11.11	74.84
5' 6"	1.67	12.2	77.11
5' 7"	1.70	12.7	79.37
5' 8"	1.72	12.12	81.64
5' 9"	1.75	13.3	83.91
5' 10"	1.77	13.9	86.63
5' 11"	1.80	14.1	88.90
6' 0" +	1.83 +	14.7	92.07

### **We have weight limits for safety and for several reasons.**

Firstly, we have an all up weight for the parachute equipment we use which includes the weight of the instructor, the student and all the parachute equipment.

Secondly if the 'student' (that is you) is significantly bigger than the 'expert' (your instructor) it may be possible for the 'student' to take control of the jump which would be unsafe.

Thirdly the heavier someone is the physically harder it is for the instructor.

Fourthly we must consider weight and centre of gravity issues in the aircraft. We work on an average exit weight (that is you, your clothes and the weight of the equipment) and large variations from this can unbalance the aircraft.

Lastly, someone who exceeds the weight limit for the shorter category, may sink down in the harness and find they are unable to lift their legs for landing. If you are concerned that you are outside our weight limits and that we may refuse you the jump; you are welcome to come to the centre in advance so that we may carry out a risk assessment with you. This does not guarantee we will let you jump but will save you disappointment on the day.

### **Can disabled people jump?**

It depends on the disability, but most people are able to make a tandem skydive. However, you must be able to walk to the aircraft, climb a ladder into it and lift your knees and feet to hip level when suspended in a harness.

### **How Safe is the sport?**

The sport is governed by very strict rules and regulations laid down by **British Skydiving (BS)** and is something that we do 6 days a week in the summer and 3 days a week in the winter (weather permitting). Statistically you stand more chance of injuring yourself driving to the aerodrome than you do by making a Tandem Skydive.

### **Can I bring Spectators?**

The airfield is open to the public and there is a small cafe on site and public toilet including a disabled one with baby change facilities. The centres buildings and the parachute landing area are off limits to members of the public. There can be lots of waiting around on the day and there are no indoor waiting areas.