

*Thank you for enquiring about making a Tandem Skydive for Charity at **Skydive Headcorn**. Here is some more information*

## **What is a Tandem Skydive?**

A Tandem Skydive is an amazing experience which allows you to jump out of a plane securely attached to a very experienced Skydiving Instructor.

After a training session lasting about 20 minutes the jump is made from c.12, 000 feet. The instructor remains in control at all times and the freefall lasts 30-40 seconds and the ride under the parachute about 5 minutes.

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

At Headcorn Airfield right in the heart of Kent with incredible views of the Southeast corner of England, the south coast of Essex and the northern coast of France.

## **How much does it cost?**

The total cost is **£275** weekends and bank holidays and **£255** weekdays. **£95** of this price is for your flight ticket which is sold separately by the operators of the aircraft *Headcorn Parachute Club*.

If you raise a minimum of **£400** by asking your friends and family to sponsor you the jump can be free to you. **This means you pay for it out of the money you raise and donate at least **£125** to your charity!**

## **Photography**

You can hire a qualified skydiving cameraperson to jump with you and record your experience at an additional cost of **£150**. **£50** of this is for your camera flight ticket which is sold separately by the operators of the aircraft *Headcorn Parachute Club*. They will produce a USB with an edited video of your jump plus all the raw footage and about 30-50 still photographs all in HD. **BS regulations do not allow you to wear or take your own camera.**

## **Safety**

The sport is governed by very strict rules and regulations of **British Skydiving (BS)**.

## **Are there any restrictions**

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.

A self-declaration of fitness must be signed prior to jumping or you can take medical advice from a doctor. The relevant forms for this are available to view on our website. The minimum age is 16 and there is no upper age limit for tandem.

You must be able to walk to the aircraft, climb a ladder into it and lift your legs straight out in front of you when suspended in a harness.

## What about the weather?

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 does the day involve?

Upon arrival at the airfield by **8.30, 11.00 or 13.00** at Weekends and Public Holidays **10.00 or 13.00** Tuesday -Friday you will need to register at the **Tandem Meeting Point**. This is necessary to determine the order in which you will jump. You will be given the opportunity to book a cameraperson to jump with you and film your experience. When everyone booked to jump in your timeslot (it may be up to 12 people) has registered we start the training which lasts about 20 minutes. Provided the weather is suitable we are then ready to take you jumping. This is done in order of your registration at the **Tandem Meeting Point**.

We aim to jump everyone as quickly as possible but please allow up to 6 hours.

## Why does it take all day to jump everyone?

*Headcorn Parachute Club* operates one aircraft at a time which can make up to 20+ flights per day. 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. Although the aircraft can take up to fourteen people, we never guarantee jumping more than two tandems at a time.

## How do I book?

A **£100** non-refundable booking fee is required. You pay this online at [www.headcorn.com](http://www.headcorn.com) where you will find all the availability. You will be sent a full confirmation email with all the details you need for the day including your arrival time. On the day of the jump *Skydive Headcorn* require the balance for the jump of either **£80 or £60** (weekend/weekday) plus **£95** for your flight ticket which is payable to the operators of the aircraft *Headcorn Parachute Club* making a total of **£275 or £255** (weekend/weekday). Photography services must also be paid prior to jumping.

## **How does it work with the charity.**

You will be raising money for your charity. We provide the facilities for you to jump, and this is what our costs are for. Therefore, it is **not** a free jump, but the jump can be **free to you** if you pay the jump costs out of the money you raise.

**Any money raised online will go direct to your charity and cannot be used to pay your jump costs.**

## **Can I bring Spectators?**

The airfield is open to the public, but facilities are limited. There is a small cafe on site and toilets including a disabled and baby change one. The parachute landing area and all the centres' buildings are off limits to the public. Please bear in mind that there can be a lot of waiting around and no indoor seating is provided. The airfield is a working farm, and we cannot give you permission to bring your dog.

## **Alcohol and Drugs**

The consumption of alcohol is **prohibited prior to jumping** and until parachuting has finished for the day. Anyone suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be refused their jump and **forfeit their jump fees.**