

18 July 2024

Dear parents and carers

Yesterday in the Year 9 assembly we were delighted to introduce an exciting opportunity for **July 2026**; a **15-day expedition to Namibia** to take place after students complete their GCSE exams at the end of their Year 11. We have a strong tradition of undertaking these life-changing excursions travelling with [Adventure Lifesigns](#) to eSwatini, Tanzania, Borneo, Kenya, India, Zambia, Uganda, and Nepal.

The [Introductory Presentation is HERE](#) for parents and students to view. **This experience will create personal challenges, broaden horizons, develop skills and aptitudes and forge friendships that will last a lifetime.**

Over the next 24 months we will support and encourage students to fundraise towards the trip. By raising their own funds, they will become more financially independent and learn the value of budgeting and saving. The initial deposit will be due by the end of September so if your young person is interested, they may like to start fundraising over the summer.

Before we go, students and staff will attend training sessions to build the confidence and skills to cope with the rigours of an expedition of this nature. The trip is split into several distinct phases carefully designed to maximise their personal development and enjoyment; there will be a cultural element, a trek, and a community project.

The fully inclusive cost of the trip (that's all training, air travel to Namibia, the in-country costs of transport, accommodation, food and drinks, group equipment, community project, and a comprehensive insurance package) is £2970.

On Wednesday 11 September at 5.30pm we will host a meeting in Room 1-30, run by Alastair Cole, the MD of Adventure Lifesigns, which will be an opportunity for interested students and parents to find out more before making the decision to participate. *There is no obligation to proceed with the expedition by attending the meeting, it is solely to provide information to help you decide if it is right for you.*

Expeditions overseas are truly great experiences and provide students with a huge range of skills that they will find useful in further education as well as in later life.

Best wishes

Mrs K Gray

Associate Assistant Head - School Improvement Lead