



13th December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Venture Force – Finland Expedition – July 2026

We are excited to offer pupils the opportunity to be part of an unforgettable expedition to Finland in July 2026. The Avon Valley team will embark on a unique adventure, taking on both a canoeing and cycling challenge through Finland's stunning wilderness. Students will paddle through serene lakes along the historic Tar canoe route, followed by a cycling journey through beautiful countryside, all while developing key skills for their future.

This expedition is more than just a physical challenge - it's a valuable chance for personal growth. Pupils will gain confidence, resilience, and teamwork abilities, which will help them stand out when applying for jobs, apprenticeships, or further education opportunities. Alongside these skills, participants will create lasting memories in a supportive and adventurous environment.

The expedition will be led by Venture Force, a company with extensive experience in organising purposeful expeditions worldwide, ensuring the safety and success of every trip.

Draft Itinerary

Day 1	International Flights to Helsinki
Day 2	Travel Helsinki to Kuhmo
Day 3	Canoe Journey
Day 4	Canoe Journey
Day 5	Canoe Journey
Day 6	Canoe Journey
Day 7	Cycling
Day 8	Cycling
Day 9	Cycling
Day 10	Cycling/ / Arrive Oulu
Day 11	Oulu to Helsinki
Day 12	International Flights to UK

The total cost of the expedition is £2,950 per student.

To find out more, we will be holding a student assembly, week commencing Tuesday 7th January 2025, where the expedition will be introduced to pupils. Following this, we will invite parents of interested pupils to attend a presentation on Wednesday 22nd January 2025 from 6.30 pm - 7:30 pm, where more detailed information about the trip will be provided.



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To confirm your attendance at the parent presentation or to register interest please complete the Google form <https://forms.gle/4MuaGgUmbDWQrPcb6>.

In the meantime, please contact me for any further information.

We hope your child will join us for this exciting adventure.

Yours sincerely,

Jayne Mortimer





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ELIGIBILITY

Should the trip be oversubscribed, the trip organiser will select participants at random. If a trip is oversubscribed, a waiting list will be generated. It is important that you pay your deposit by the deadline given – late payments will not be accepted. Any unpaid deposits will result in your child losing their place, and the next student on the waiting list will be offered the place.

PAYMENT INSTALMENT PLAN

Please see below the instalments broken down for the trip. Payments and consent can be made via the school's online payment platform IRIS.

Please note by giving consent and payment via IRIS, you are also giving consent for your child to have "free time" with remote supervision in the accommodation if applicable.

Please note that students entitled to the Pupil Premium can use this allowance to pay for part of the trip excluding the deposit (subject to sufficient funds remaining).

By 17 th February 2025	£500 (initial deposit, non-refundable)
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By 17 th March 2025	£175
By 21 st April 2025	£175
By 19 th May 2025	£175
By 16 th June 2025	£175
By 21 st July 2025	£175
By 18 th August 2025	£175
By 15 th September 2025	£175
By 20 th October 2025	£175
By 17 th November 2025	£175
By 15 th December 2025	£175
By 19 th January 2026	£175
By 16 th February 2026	£175
By 16 th March 2026	£175
By 20 th April 2026	£175



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PASSPORT & DOCUMENTATION

At the time of travel, students must have a valid UK passport with more than six months remaining on their passports. This is subject to change depending on Government guidelines. All students will require an UK GHIC/EHIC card to travel. Holders of British passports do not need a visa to enter Finland. If your child does not hold a British passport, we advise you to check the entry requirements for Finland with your embassy.

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS

In the event that you are unable to go on the trip we will endeavour to recover, from the tour company, what is allowable under their conditions (see below).

“If you, or any member of your party, decides to cancel your confirmed booking you must notify us in writing. Your notice of cancellation will only take effect when it is received in writing by us and acknowledged and will be effective from the date on which we receive it.”

Date of receipt by Venture Force of the notice of cancellation in writing	Charges (as % of total price)
More than 331 days before the Departure Date	The Deposit and any charges and fees paid in accordance with clause 4.4
Between 121 days and 330 days before the Departure Date	25%
Between 91 days and 120 days before the Departure Date	50%
Between 29 days and 90 days before the Departure date	70%
28 days or less prior to the Departure Date	Fully price of the booking (100%)

Full terms and conditions: <https://www.ventureforce.co.uk/terms-conditions/>

The school reserves the right to cancel the trip should there be insufficient numbers. In these circumstances any monies paid will be refunded.