



QUEEN'S
COLLEGE
TAUNTON

Outdoor Education



WELCOME	4
MEET THE TEAM	5
PREP SCHOOL OUTDOOR EDUCATION	7
The Curriculum	8
Our Co-Curriculars	17
Discovery Trips	18
School trips	20
OED Discovery Day - Summer term	21
SENIOR SCHOOL OUTDOOR EDUCATION	23
Sample Co-curricular Timetable	24
Co- Curricular weekly clubs	25
Example Trips and Expeditions in the Summer Term	28
Expeditions	31
Duke of Edinburgh	32
Ten Tors	34
Exmoor Challenge	34
Adventure Challenges	35
BTEC (SIXTH FORM)	36
CERTIFICATION AND QUALIFICATIONS	37
OUTDOOR ED SCHOLARSHIP (AGE 11+ 13+ 16+)	38

Welcome

From Forest School in nursery to overseas expeditions in the Senior School, outdoor education plays a central role in life at Queen's College.

Outdoor Education is an umbrella term to describe a wide range of learning in the outdoors. This includes adventure education, personal and social development and environmental awareness. We embrace all of these key areas in producing a programme that fosters leadership, teamwork and communication skills as well as enhancing our pupil's health and wellbeing. We aim to instil an appreciation of the environment around us and enable pupils to challenge themselves and learn to manage risk in order to help develop resilience and initiative.

Our location is not only ideal for exploring the coast, countryside and waterways, we also maximise the use of our 36 acre campus, with its beautiful open green spaces and wooded areas. Both younger pupils and older pupils benefit hugely from the adventure and exploration opportunities. Our dedicated team are committed to providing endless well-structured and well-resourced activities.

There is a wide range of outdoor activities on offer led by a number of qualified and highly experienced members of staff. There is a packed programme on offer during the week and trips go further afield every weekend.

“The Outdoor Education department strives to deliver positive, fun and enriching experiences outside the classroom that enables participants to grow confidence and learn new skills in an inclusive environment. Our programme is designed to inspire and educate young people into a lifetime of adventure.”

– Mr Mark Neenan, Head of Outdoor Education

Meet the Team

Here is a glimpse at the staff that lead the different areas of our Outdoor Education programme, but the list of those assisting extends beyond this. All of our team are trained by National Governing Bodies in their relevant activities and are always enthusiastic about continuing to develop their own skills.



Mark Neenan
Head of Outdoor Education



Rosie Allport
Outdoor Education



Josh Marsh
Outdoor Education



Megan Neenan
Silver DofE Leader and Climbing



Kirsten Webber
Climbing



Ruth Hyland
Walking and Climbing



Ella Ridley
Archery and Climbing



Charlie Speyer
Walking



Matt Worthy
Walking and DofE



Naomi Speyer
Equestrian



Prep School Outdoor Education

*...both younger
pupils and older
pupils benefit hugely
from the adventure
and exploration
opportunities.*

The Curriculum

Outdoor Education lessons are part of the Prep School Curriculum and allow Reception to Year 6 pupils to enjoy an hour of enriching outdoor learning per week. Each term year groups will partake in a different activity to give them the best introduction to the broad spectrum of pursuits we offer on site at Queen's.

For each outdoor activity we ask that the pupils bring the adequate clothing

to allow us to continue keeping our lessons outdoors, but thanks to our onsite facilities we do have many indoor alternatives for the day's where the British weather requires it. Specific kit lists can be found on my school portal. When the British weather does its worst there will always be indoor facilities available.

Here is a sample overview of the Years 3-6 timetable.

	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
Autumn 1	Team building	Team building	Team building	John Muir
Autumn 2	Conservation	Climbing Archery	Climbing Water safety	John Muir
Spring 1	Climbing Orienteering	Climbing Archery	Climbing Water safety	Climbing Kayaking
Spring 2	Climbing Orienteering	Pioneering	Bushcraft Archery	Climbing Kayaking
Summer	Bushcraft	Bushcraft	NNAS	Team building Biking



NOLA - National Outdoor Learning Award

We have adapted the nationally recognised "NOLA" to provide a framework for our outdoor learning. We have developed a Silver and Gold tiered scheme that we run with our Years 3 and 4 pupils alongside the normal rotation of activities. NOLA is a skills based curriculum which focuses on encouraging personal reflection in outdoor learning and is a proven aid in developing higher levels of motivation, esteem and skills amongst pupils.

The scheme is a participation award, where after each session the pupils reflect on how they think they have met different elements of the 'six values' and keep track of their progress over the year.

The six values are -

- Q Safety
- Q Learning
- Q Respect
- Q Self
- Q Others
- Q Environment

Year 3 pupils, on completion of the academic Year will receive their Silver Award and Year 4 pupils will receive their Gold. This scheme reinforces positive and proactive learning in our younger pupils as well as enhancing their learning both inside and outside of the classroom, as they continue on their educational journey through the Prep and Senior Schools.

John Muir

The John Muir Discovery Award is an environmental award that our Year 6 pupils complete over the Autumn Term. It was established to help young people appreciate and value nature, whilst promoting educational, social, and personal development. Throughout the term Year 6 look at exploration of wild places and are involved in conservation, with an opportunity to build their own composting system and work alongside Forestry England on a tree regeneration scheme.

To complete the award the pupils must demonstrate they have met the four areas of the syllabus.



- Q Discover a wild place** - Here the pupils are encouraged to study the flora around them, and taught different methods to help identify and record it.
- Q Explore it** - Anything goes with this unit! We want to inspire them to explore nature in whichever way they prefer - climbing, walking, paddling, swimming... We will cover different ways to safely get creative and set tasks to gain confidence in spending time outdoors.
- Q Conserve it** - Conservation is going to play a huge part in our children's future and this unit will start to make them aware of some easy swaps they can make to feel they are contributing. Alongside reforestation, litter picking and minimising erosion we look at worm composting where pupils will create and maintain their own worm bins.
- Q Share what you have learnt** - This award will be completed with a presentation of what they have achieved at the end of the school year. They are encouraged to share their experiences with everyone and will be given a booklet to record their terms of work.



Climbing

Introducing Climbing into our curriculum has been a huge success thanks to our state of the art indoor climbing wall. All pupils in the Prep School will complete a half term of climbing where they will work towards personal targets and improving their technique. Our coaches have carefully developed skill based schemes to help pupils progress confidently regardless of starting ability.

The coaching focuses not only on strength, but on developing their movement on the wall and establishing safe practices that they can carry through to the co-curricular programme and external trips.

In Year 6, our climbers will work towards their NICAS (National Indoor Climbing Award Scheme) Level 1, where our coaches will work with the pupils to get them safely trained in the necessary techniques to achieve this. This scheme is a milestone based assessment which will be introduced again in the Senior School and an opportunity for eager climbers to advance up the NICAS levels.



Water Safety

Water Safety is a unit completed by our Year 5 pupils in accordance with the Royal Life Saving Society 'Rookie Lifeguard' syllabus.

For half a term the pupils will look at the pre-cautions to take around deep water and the appropriate steps to follow during an unaided rescue. This will involve self-rescues, survival and simulated emergency responses.

Depending on the pupils' ability, the Rookie Lifeguard unit will be completed to either Bronze or Silver standard during a continual assessment over 6 weeks.

Kayaking

Kayaking is a fantastic activity on offer to our Year 6 pupils for half a term. This is an introduction to kayaking with a path of progression for children of all abilities. The sessions will take place in the school pool, focusing on flat water skills and safe practices.

Over 6 weeks pupils will develop their basic boat handling skills which they

can then transfer to canoe polo or white-water paddling, as they move up through the School.

On completion of this unit, Year 6 pupils will receive their 'Paddlepower Start Award', which is a nationally recognised certificate stating their ability in flatwater Kayaking.



Archery

Our Archery range is another fantastic onsite facility that our Years 4 and 5 benefit from for a term during their Outdoor Education lessons.

During these lessons we will look at a sliding scale progression, assuming that for most pupils this will be their first introduction to the sport. We have many different bows according to ability and size, which makes this activity accessible to all. Focusing on proper technique and safe practises our coaches will conclude the term with a set of pupils all capable of safely checking, loading and shooting their own arrows. This is an activity that many pupils choose to revisit during co-curriculars so it is an excellent chance to set personal targets that our coaches will help them work towards.

...archery is an activity that many pupils choose to revisit during co-curricular sessions...

Aside from being a brilliant opportunity to try a new activity, Archery is also a great tool to introduce our younger pupils to more mindful practices, focusing on concentration and controlling external factors that can affect individual performances.

Pioneering

For half a term our Year 4 pupils will begin pioneering with sessions based on problem solving using a range of practical skills.

Over the course of these 6 weeks, the pupils show a noticeable improvement in their communication, teamwork and leadership skills as they are forced to call upon the strengths of the whole class to progress through the tasks.

Team Building

All pupils will complete a half term of Team Building each year, focusing on social skills such as communication, leadership, problem solving and patience. Through these fun and interactive sessions we cover a range of scenarios to help work towards different learning outcomes according to the year groups.

This syllabus is written to aid the pupils' integration and progression into the Senior School, equipping them with the right tools to excel both in and out of the classroom.

Bushcraft

Our Years 3, 4 and 5 will all complete a half term of Bushcraft. These sessions will work on self-sufficiency and explore different methods to maintain the pillars of survival: Fire, Food, Water and Shelter. Both Years 3 and 4 will end the term with a scenario based challenge, where they will be expected to use all the skills they have learnt to successfully provide for their team. This is a great conclusion to their 6 weeks, where we see groups whittling their own tent pegs, making their own cordage for shelters and successfully purifying water and cooking food for the group. This syllabus has been written to inspire adventure in our pupils and as they move up the years we see a clear improvement in their decision making, resilience and environmental awareness.

National Navigation Award Scheme (NNAS) Outdoor Discovery Award (ODA)

This Award is completed by our Year 5 pupils where they will, alongside the NNAS syllabus, learn introductory navigation skills whilst nurturing a confidence in outdoor exploration. Our coaches are trained to deliver this syllabus and ensure it is an enriching addition to their curriculum. Pupils will be given the tools to independently plan and navigate a journey in the local area.

The award is gained via continuous assessment throughout the term where pupils will cover the 5 sections that make up ODA:

- Q Engage with the outdoors
- Q Making your own map
- Q Journeying
- Q Understanding the concept of symbols and scale
- Q Setting the map

This award will be completed to either 1 or 2 star standard depending on the ability of the pupil. The skills taken away will be invaluable for the walking challenges on offer in the Senior School.



Biking

During the summer term, Year 6 will have introductory sessions to Biking, where they will look at consolidating the correct riding technique and balance on a bike. The progression for pupils is focused on preparing their bike handling for the Senior School, where pupils will have opportunities to advance further and take part in off-site trips.

Our fleet of mountain bikes will ensure all pupils can learn how to safely ride and our coaches cater the sessions to all abilities. The visuospatial and coordination benefits of this activity are transferable across many of our Outdoor Pursuits and will be invaluable when carried through to the Senior School.



Our Co-curriculum

Outside of the curriculum the pupils will also have the opportunity to take part in co-curricular sessions, most of which they would have been introduced to during their lessons. All of our activities are led by qualified staff that can help the pupils work towards personal targets and development in their chosen pursuits. Below is a breakdown of the activities on offer.



Climbing

Climbing has quickly become one of our most popular Co-Curricular activities with our fantastic on-site climbing wall. Pupils will have the opportunity to engage in weekly sessions where they can progress beyond the skills they have been introduced to during their timetabled sessions. Those committed to this discipline will quickly be able to progress through the climbing grades and with commitment could aim for selection to in our Prep School Climbing Squad.

Archery

Archery is another co-curricular that the pupils will be introduced to during their timetabled lessons but can continue to progress by joining these after school sessions. Our onsite facilities allow us to cater to all ages and abilities and work closely alongside the different year groups to develop safe skills and personal targets.

Riding

There are opportunities for our Prep School pupils to ride at a local trekking and riding centre, where the instructor is able to help pupils develop regardless of their ability. Many pupils have their own horses and are encouraged to compete. They achieve significant success not only regionally but nationally in show jumping, dressage and one day events.

Discovery Trips

Our Discovery Trips are off-site learning opportunities for our pupils to apply and consolidate the skills they have covered in their Outdoor Education syllabus. These trips aim to instil an appreciation of the environment around us and enable pupils to challenge themselves and develop resilience and initiative outside of the classroom. Below are examples of some of the trips on offer.

Climbing

One of the trips we run for Years 3 and 5 is a trip to Rock and Rapid, a climbing wall in South Molton, where the pupils will be able to build up their experience at a larger climbing venue. This is a great opportunity for these year groups to have an off-site opportunity to apply the knowledge they have gained over their 6 week climbing programme and continue to challenge themselves in a different environment. This trip offers our Year 3 an insight into some of the progression opportunities that lie ahead, and creates a welcomed challenge for our older Prep School pupils that need to get comfortable with resilience needed to complete unfamiliar climbing routes.

Quantock day

In the Autumn Term, Year 6 pupils are introduced to the concept and values of the John Muir Award. Pupils will have a day walk on the Quantocks discussing and investigating the topics of conservation and environmental awareness. The day is a fantastic introduction to the John Muir Award and aims to excite pupil's curiosity in relation to 'all things environmental' in their local area. It will also provide an opportunity for pupils to consolidate their navigational skills, whilst exploring the fantastic countryside of the Quantock Hills.

Night walk

Towards the end of the John Muir Award Year 6 will delve deeper into what 'exploring a wild place' can really entail and challenge themselves with a night walk across the Quantocks. Whilst introducing basic concepts of night navigation we will also create an environment where the pupils can appreciate the contrast between visiting this local area in the daytime and after the sun has set, as well as what they must keep in mind to keep the group safe. A big element of the Award is to share their experiences with others and this walk is a great opportunity for exactly that, thanks to a unique trip that they can't wait to get home and talk about!

Tree planting on the Quantocks

During the spring term Year 6 look further into the concept of conservation and their impact on the local environment by helping the Quantock Rangers and Forestry England to plant new trees.

An important part of their John Muir Award is being aware of the importance of taking action and contributing to the preservation of wild places and this day is a true homage to the work that the founder of the scheme wanted to encourage. The trip is filled with insight into the effort needed to maintain these areas but also allows our pupils to see that gestures need not be large and time consuming to have lasting effects.

It's a very rewarding day for those that take part and provides a great reference for the pupil's final presentation where they discuss the impact this award has had on them.

Bushcraft

Before Year 4 begin their bushcraft term they have an exciting day on the Blackdowns to recap some of the skills they learnt in Year 3 and look forward to the new syllabus. This is a brilliant opportunity for the year group to have a morning of teamwork and fun in nature, instilling environmental awareness and a sense of responsibility as they work together on a range of team tasks. With some nice hot chocolate to keep warm, the pupils will need to build the best den using only materials they can find in the wilderness and work together to meet all the criteria of a good shelter. This is always a very successful trip, and sets a great tone for the pupils to start thinking about applying some of the skills they are learning in Outdoor Education outside of the classroom.



School trips

Queen's offers some fantastic school trips which are anticipated by many with dates published at the beginning of the year in the school calendar. Parents will be sent relevant trip information and evolve registration forms nearer the time. Below are some of the trips on offer.

Ardèche

This is a Year 6 trip which runs in the summer term, where all are encouraged to participate. The 7 day trip to Southern France includes multiple activities including a fantastic 2 day canoeing expedition down the Ardèche gorge with overnight bivouac camping. It's a great opportunity for pupils to work on their resilience and make use of the skills they have learnt over their time in Prep School. Besides the canoe expedition, some top favourites are raft building, rock climbing, weaselling and high ropes! As well as taking in the French culture, including visiting a French market. This trip is an adventurous way to finish off their time in the Prep School and introduce the pupils to some of the outdoor opportunities they will come across as they step up to Year 7.

Ski Trip

The very popular Ski trips take place once every two years for Year 6 pupils and are open to all abilities from total beginners to experienced skiers. It takes place in the Italian or French Alps and is often one of the many highlights of the school year. During the week the pupils will receive 25 hours of professional tuition and will take part in a range of exciting evening activities, such as bowling and ice skating.

The trip will be open to Years 6, 7, and 8 pupils, so is a great opportunity for our Prep School pupils to begin to get to know the younger pupils in the Senior School.

Year 4 Camp

During the summer term, Year 4 will take part in a whole year camping trip for one night at Huish Woods. This overnight trip is a fun-filled introduction to camping with loads of campsite games to make the most of the great location. This is a lovely way to finish a busy year of Outdoor Education for our Year 4's and consolidates the social skills and appreciation for the environment that we have instilled over their weekly lessons.

Year 5 Camp

The pupils return to Huish Woods with a full day of activities alongside one night of camping. The onsite facilities allow for an adventure packed stay, where the pupils will engage in new experiences focusing on their team work and resilience.

This is a great confidence builder and allows them to consolidate some of their skills alongside trying some that may be out of their usual comfort zone. It's always a fantastic end to their year, and starts to introduce some of the themes of environmental awareness that they will cover in the first term of Year 6. A day is also spent at wimbleball lake introducing pupils to SUPs and a highropes course



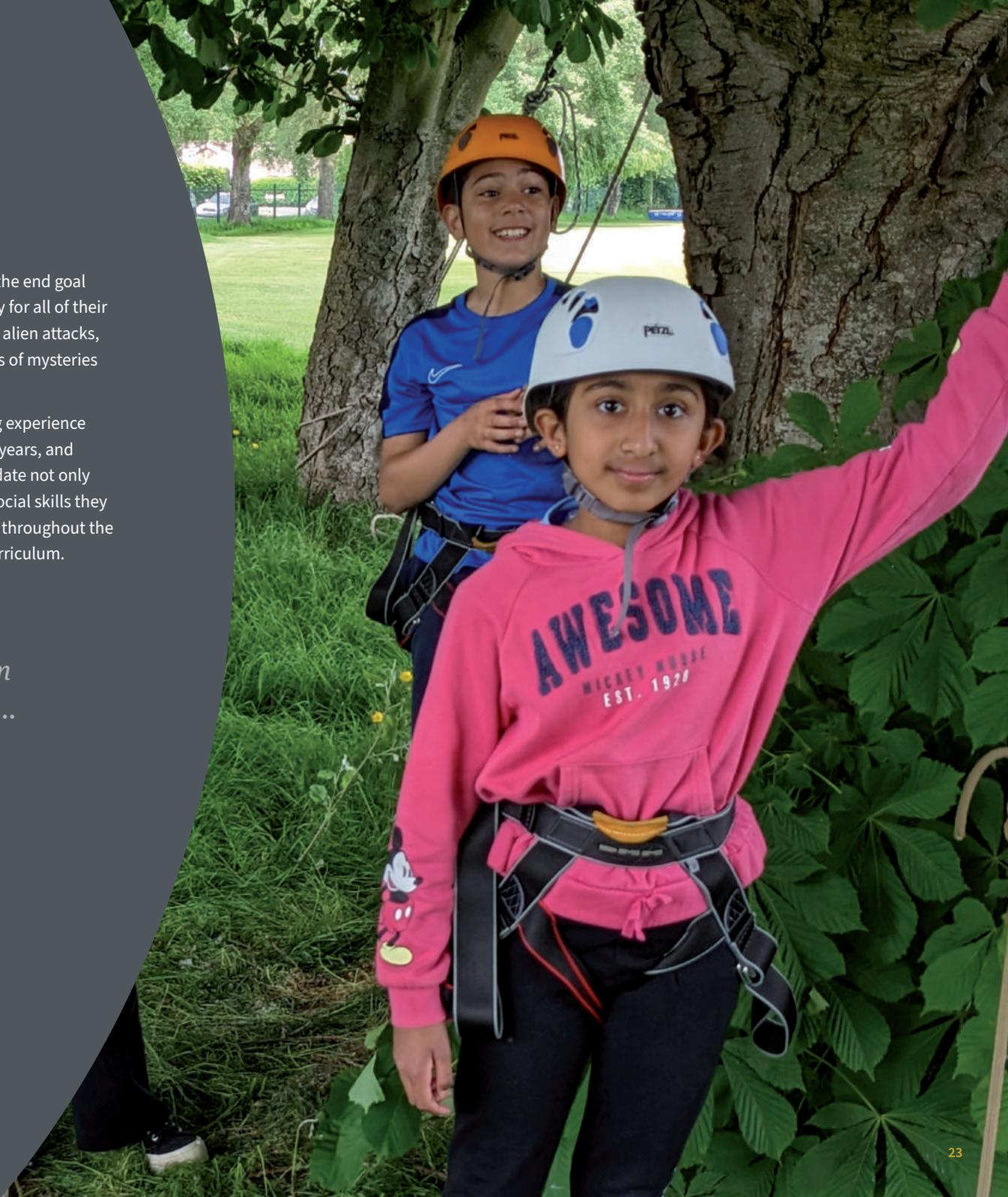
Outdoor Education Discovery Day - Summer term

The Outdoor Ed Discovery Day is a fantastic event heavily anticipated by the entire Prep School. In the last term our department hosts a full day of interactive activities based around a scenario that requires Prep School to resolve. Many of these challenges will call upon skills learnt in their Outdoor Education syllabus and it creates a great way to recap all of the exciting things they've done. This day will begin with a themed 'emergency assembly' where the pupils will have the day

outlined to them and the end goal explained. This is a day for all of their wildest fantasies, with alien attacks, treasure hunts and lots of mysteries to uncover!

It's a fantastic bonding experience between the different years, and guarantees to consolidate not only the practical but the social skills they have been developing throughout the Outdoor Education curriculum.

...a great opportunity for pupils to work on their resilience and make use of the skills...





Senior School Outdoor Education

*...a packed programme on
offer during the week and
trips further afield...*

Sample Co-curricular Timetable

Monday CC1		Climbing
Monday CC2		Kayaking
Monday CC3		Climbing
Tuesday CC1		Climbing Squad
Tuesday CC1		Climbing
Tuesday CC1	Beginners	Mountain Biking or Off Site Climbing
Tuesday CC2	Horse Riding	Finish 7:30-8:00pm
Tuesday CC2		Climbing
Wednesday CC1		Silver DofE
Wednesday CC1		Gold DofE
Wednesday CC1		Beginners Horse Riding
Wednesday CC2		Climbing
Wednesday CC2		Canoe Polo
Wednesday CC3		Canoe Polo Squad
Thursday CC1	Climbing	Archery
Thursday CC1		Bronze DofE
Thursday CC1		Kayaking / Climbing Finish 7:00-8:00pm
Thursday CC1		Sailing - Finish 7:00-8:00pm
Thursday CC2	Climbing	Kayaking
Thursday CC3		Scuba Diving
Friday CC1		Climbing
Friday CC1		Adventure Club Finish 7:00-8:00pm
Friday CC2	Climbing Squad	
Saturday 10:00am		Kayaking Pool / River



Co-Curricular weekly clubs

Climbing

Climbing takes place for all year groups in our state-of-the-art climbing wall. Pupils will have the opportunity to gain nationally recognised NICAS and NIBAS awards. Although climbing is generally recreational, pupils who want to take things further can compete in a number of climbing competitions, bouldering leagues and the UKC Youth Climbing Series. At least once a week there is also an opportunity for pupils to go offsite climbing at local climbing walls, and in the summer, to climb outdoors on some of the limestone crags of the Mendips and South Devon.

Kayaking and Canoe Polo

There are regular sessions in the school pool to improve basic skills and rolling technique for all year groups. We also run a variety of Whitewater Kayaking trips throughout the year whether on a river or surfing. These will either be recreational trips or training trips for the various summer kayaking expeditions to the Alps. Queen's also specialises in Canoe Polo and has a team which competes in the schools league as well as the South West Canoe Polo league.

Adventure Club

Year 7 and 8 adventure club have the opportunity to experience a range of activities throughout the year including caving, canoeing, kayaking, climbing, mountain biking, coasteering and overnight expeditions.

Mountain Biking

This club is open to all years and abilities during all three terms, with our own fleet of trail ready bikes. Pupils are able to experience a range of riding venues, such as the Quantocks, Haldon Forest and Ashton Court. During the darker months, night riding is offered to the more experienced pupils.

Scuba diving

PADI Open Water and Advanced Open Water diving courses are run in the school pool. There are also trips out to local reservoirs (Vobster on the Mendips) and the South Devon coast as well as occasional overseas expeditions to Gozo and Tenerife during the holidays.

Horse riding

Groups of pupils are able to ride on a weekly basis at a local riding centre. Local pupils with their own horses and are encouraged to compete. They achieve significant success not only regionally but nationally in show jumping, dressage and one day events.

Archery

Archery has become a very popular activity at Queen's and is available on a weekly basis for all year groups in the Senior School.

Sailing

During the summer term pupils are able to sail at Wimbleball Lake on a weekly basis to complete nationally recognised RYA sailing awards.



Clay pigeon shooting

Groups of pupils visit a local Clay-pigeon Shooting centre for weekly practice with the opportunity of competing in inter-school competitions.

Senior games - kayaking and climbing

For those who want more offsite opportunities, we offer additional Whitewater Kayaking and Climbing in the weekly Senior Games slot. This includes regular trips to the River Dart, local kayak surfing spots and outdoor climbing in the warmer months.



Example Trips and Expeditions in the Summer Term

- Q Ten Tors Training
- Q Climbing Chudleigh
- Q Ten Tors Event
- Q Alps Kayak Training
- Q Climbing Dartmoor
- Q Bike ride to the sea
- Q Canoe Polo Tournament Bristol Docks
- Q Sailing Wimbleball
- Q Cardiff WWC Kayaking Alps training
- Q Exmoor Challenge event Dulverton
- Q Climbing Cheddar
- Q Kayaking Year 7 and 8 (Langport or Wye)
- Q Bronze DofE Assessment
- Q Tryweryn Alps training
- Q Sailing Wimbleball Lake
- Q Kayaking Year 7 and 8 (River Wye)
- Q Year 8 Adventure Challenge (Brecon Beacons)
- Q Year 9 Adventure Challenge (Brecon Beacons)
- Q Gold DofE Canoeing Final Expedition (River Spey Scotland)
- Q Paddleboard Adventure Wimbleball
- Q Silver DofE Walking Final Expedition (Dartmoor)
- Q Year 10 Wimbleball Adventure Day



To view upcoming expeditions and trips please visit My School Portal at bit.ly/40TLZGE or scan the QR code below





Expeditions

Details of our larger expeditions will be shared a year in advance and due to demand there may be a selection process. The criteria for this will either be age or level of engagement in the appropriate outdoor activity. An example of the kinds of trips we offer can be found below.

Alps

In the summer there is whitewater kayaking trip to Europe each year (either French Alps, Austrian Alps or Norway depending on the group's experience)

French Alps

Key Stage 3 climbing and kayaking trip each year.

Ski Trip

A Senior (Years 9-13) and a Lower School (Years 6-8) trip run alternate years

Spain Climbing Trip

Open to experienced climbers Years 7-13

Expedition group

Goal focused challenging expedition weekend for Outdoor Education Scholars

Occasional trips

Diving Gozo Malta



Duke of Edinburgh

Queen's College is a centre of excellence for the Duke of Edinburgh (D of E) Award Scheme.

The three levels of awards, Bronze (6 months), Silver (12 months) and Gold (18 months) are divided into four sections: volunteering, skills, physical recreation and expedition. For the Expedition section, pupils need to plan, train for and complete an unaccompanied, self-reliant expedition with an agreed aim. With Bronze and Silver groups generally walk. The gold groups choose between walking and canoeing.

Walking, open canoeing and memorable camping expeditions take place over some stunning regions of the United Kingdom – Dartmoor, Lake District, Exmoor, River Wye and Scotland.

The Duke of Edinburgh Scheme is open to everyone regardless of experience, but will require commitment and a proactive approach to successfully complete the award. Part of this involves attending a DofE theory and route planning session once a week as part of the Co Curriculum.

Walking

- Q Bronze** - Training on the Quantocks and a qualifying Expedition on Exmoor. For Bronze you will complete 2 days of walking and one night of self-sufficient camping.
- Q Silver** - Training on Exmoor, qualifying on Dartmoor. The expedition is 3 days and 2 nights.
- Q Gold** - Training on Dartmoor, qualifying in the Lake District. The pupils will have to complete 4 days and 3 nights.



Canoeing

Gold - Walking and open canoeing expeditions take place in some stunning regions of the UK. Pupils will need to complete 4 days of canoeing and 3 nights of wild camping.



Ten Tors

The Ten Tors Challenge is a two day expedition over Dartmoor, where selected teams will visit 10 specified checkpoints requiring a walk of 35 miles for Year 9 and 10, 45 miles for Year 12 or 55 miles for Year 13.

The groups must be self-sufficient, carrying all that they need to complete their route and stay out overnight safely.

The Event starts and finishes at Okehampton Camp and is organised by the Army's Headquarters South West with support from the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force as well as civilian emergency services and volunteers.

Selection - Pupils will need to demonstrate commitment and proficiency in training should they wish to make the Team put forward for the final event.



Exmoor Challenge

Each year multiple teams of Year 7 pupils take part in the Exmoor Challenge, a 16 mile team walk across Exmoor, testing their endurance and navigation skills whilst attempting to complete the distance in the allotted time. The teams will operate independently and will not be accompanied by staff. Over 130 teams take part in this challenge, where teams follow the route setting off at timed intervals.

At each checkpoint, they must record their time and complete each leg within a time window - anything outside of this allocation will lead to deductions. It is not a race.

Selection - Pupils will need to demonstrate commitment and proficiency in training should they wish to make the Team put forward for the final event. The training days will look at navigation, teamwork and emergency scenarios under remote supervision.



Adventure Challenges

Our adventure challenges are whole year-group camping trips with a focus on team building and resilience, encompassing a range of outdoor activities.

Q In September Year 7 pupils spend 3 days in the Wye Valley

Q In June Year 8 pupils spend 3 days in the Brecon Beacons

Q In June Year 9 pupils spend 3 days in Snowdonia

All trips feature a range of activities including canoeing, climbing, hill walking, caving, gorge walking and mountain biking.



To view upcoming expeditions and trips please visit My School Portal at bit.ly/40TLZGE or scan the QR code



BTEC (Sixth Form)

The Level 3 BTEC in Sport and Outdoor Activities is a 2 year course assessed through continual assessment, which can be studied in the Sixth Form. The course focuses on personal development in areas such as leadership, risk management and initiative. The course has modules such as Health, Well-being, Careers in Sport, the Active leisure industry and Expedition experience. There's many different elements with practical opportunities both on land and on the water, where you can gain nationally recognised qualifications in a range of disciplines.

For outdoor enthusiasts this is a great option to gain a qualification carrying the same UCAS credits as an A Level, but focusing on set skills used in the Outdoor Industry. Some of the resources on offer for the BTEC at Queen's

- Q Indoor Climbing Wall
- Q Bushcraft area
- Q Opportunity to gain NGB qualification in - Kayaking, Sailing, Open Boating, Mountain Biking, Climbing, First Aid
- Q Expedition planning and experience

Industry Opportunities

A BTEC in Sports and Outdoor Activities will give you the best start for a career in the Outdoor Industry and our college works closely with Wimbleball Lake Activity Centre, helping our pupils gain experience in a relevant field of work.

Links to Outdoor Centres such as Wimbleball Lake helps our pupils to write comprehensive CV's, get interview experience and develop their skills further in paid employment.

Even without the desire to have a career in this industry, the skills learnt on the course are transferable the adeptness of the course is transferrable into many aspects of life and helps our pupils develop confidence in job applications and interpersonal skills.



Certification and Qualifications we offer

NICAS (climbing) and NIBAS (bouldering) are UK-wide schemes designed to promote climbing development and accredited individual achievement on indoor climbing walls. Each has five progressive levels of award for complete novices to expert climbers.

Paddlepower start and discover awards



The Paddle Awards are for those getting into a boat for the first time, enabling them to feel confident kayaking in the pool then progressing outdoors into a sheltered water environment. The awards help empower the paddler, enabling them to start their lifelong journey into paddlesport.

the classroom before completing 4 open water dives in a local reservoir

NNAS (National Navigation Award Scheme)



NNAS is a personal performance, non-competitive, incentive scheme for all ages to learn navigation skills and gain confidence. We offer a range of awards as pupils develop their navigation skills through Exmoor Challenge, D of E and Ten Tors.

National Sailing Scheme



This is a series of short courses, each run over a number of sessions or two full days. Progress quickly from beginner to expert in a controlled, safe and enjoyable environment. Improve your sailing, consolidating skills and trying new ones in a variety of conditions.

FSRT (Foundation Safety and Rescue Training)



This training course aims to provide paddlers with the key safety and rescue skills required to operate safely and to be able to deal with common emergencies.

PADI Diving



The PADI Open Water and Advanced Open Water courses consist of three main phases: Knowledge Development to understand basic principles of scuba diving. Confined Water Dives to learn basic scuba skills. Open Water Dives to use your skills and explore. Starting with learning skills in the pool and theory in

Mountain and Rock Skills Awards



These awards develop the essential skills you need to safely enjoy days climbing and walking in mountainous areas, looking at planning, preparation and potential hazard management in more remote areas.

Outdoor Ed Scholarship (Age 11+ 13+ 16+)

The Outdoor Education Scholarship Programme aims to provide:

- Q Specialist coaching in a wide range of outdoor activities.
- Q The opportunity to gain a range of national governing body awards in activities such as paddle sport, climbing and sailing (both personal proficiency and coaching).
- Q A mentoring programme giving access to specialist coaches as well as local clubs.
- Q Access to national performance pathways in both canoe polo and climbing.
- Q Opportunities to develop coaching skills in a range of outdoor activities.
- Q Enhanced access to domestic and overseas outdoor expeditions.

Requirements

Outdoor Education scholars are expected to be fully involved in the outdoor programme at school. They will act as role models around school and will show enthusiasm, teamwork, resilience, leadership and initiative when engaged in outdoor activities.

They will also be expected to help enthuse their peer group as well as younger members of the Queen's community as outdoor ambassadors.

Assessment

Applicants will be expected to provide an Outdoor CV / diary outlining their experience of outdoor activities including: type of outdoor activity, approximate dates, venues, details of activity.

All Applicants will also be interviewed by the Head of Outdoor Education who will assess their personality as well as attitude and aptitude towards the outdoors. Applicants will be required to give a short presentation on an outdoor experience that has inspired them

For further information about the outdoor education scholarship please email

admissions@queenscollege.org.uk



Career Development

The range of qualification on offer at Queen's will help set up individuals for skilled work in Outdoor Industries with globally recognised qualifications.

Our pupils have the opportunity to graduate with enriched CVs pathways into paid skilled employment and experiences learnt that will enable a lifetime of adventure.





QUEEN'S
COLLEGE
TAUNTON

+44 (0)1823 272559

admissions@queenscollege.org.uk

www.queenscollege.org.uk