



Avonbourne Boys' & Girls' Academies

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Respect - Equality - Ambition - Community - Hard Work & Determination



September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Launch of the Student Led Borneo Expedition, September 2026

We are thrilled to offer Current year 11 & 12 students the chance to embark on an extraordinary adventure—a **21-day expedition to Borneo in Summer 2028!** Partnering with Outlook Expeditions, the UK's leading provider of youth development programmes, this experience is designed to inspire and challenge students in exciting and meaningful ways. This is not just another school trip. It's a life-changing journey that builds character, strengthens resilience, and promotes well-being—all essential tools for leadership and tackling life's challenges. Through this immersive experience, students will grow outside the classroom, accelerating the development of vital life skills.

The Outlook Expeditions student led expedition program enables participants to undertake activities within local communities, conservation projects, trek in amazing wilderness areas, visit outstanding bucket list locations and **gain an accredited leadership award** at the same time. It encourages young people to develop independence, resilience, leadership, and teamwork while also giving back to the communities visited. Expedition programs such as this one are viewed **very highly** by universities and employers so is a great addition to UCAS applications and C.V.'s.

Taking Ownership of the Experience

As part of the programme, students are encouraged to take an active role in contributing towards the cost of their expedition through Outlook's [Pay Your Way](#) initiative. This provides guidance, resources, and support to help participants earn the cost themselves through enterprise activities. This experience not only makes the expedition more attainable, but also instils a sense of responsibility, independence, and achievement that students carry with them long after their journey ends. Most students who sign up manage to successfully fundraise the majority, if not all, of the cost of the expedition.

How can I find out more?

We would be delighted if you could join us for an Information Parent's Evening held at the school on Tuesday 29th September at 5:30PM, where we'll be sharing all the details about this incredible opportunity. We'd love for you and your son/daughter to attend! Hosted by one of friendly Outlook experts, this is your chance to explore what this expedition can offer and see if it's the perfect fit for your child. There's no obligation to participate, just a chance to learn more and get your questions answered.



Date: Tuesday 29th September 2026



Time: 5.30-6.30pm



Location: B Block Hall, entrance via student reception, Avonbourne Boys' & Girls' Academies, Harewood Avenue, Bournemouth BH7 6NY

For more information prior to the event, and to also register your attendance, please use the link below:

Principal: Michelle Dyer

Avonbourne Boys' and Girls' Academies
Harewood Avenue
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH7 6NY

t: 01202 398451

e: office@avonbourneacademy.org.uk

w: <http://www.avonbourneacademy.org.uk>



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<https://outlookexpeditions.com/schools/avonbourne-academy-2028>



At this meeting, we will provide:

- An overview of the student led expedition.
- Information about the commitments and opportunities involved.
- Details of what the cost of the 21-day expedition covers
- Help and support with student fundraising opportunities. **Majority of students manage to fundraise most if not all the cost of the expedition over the 18month build up to the trip**
- Key dates for meet the leader sessions, training sessions and the expedition.
- Guidance on how to register and next steps.

The evening will also give parents and students a chance to ask questions and hear from staff who will be leading the programme, including our chosen provider Outlook Expeditions.

We strongly encourage all interested students to attend with a parent or carer so that you can gain a clear understanding of what the Award involves before making a commitment.

Please note that Year 11 students aiming to sign up and participate in the expedition must be confident that they will be joining the Avonbourne Sixth Form in Year 12 as the trip takes place in early - mid July 2028. If they are unsure, they can still sign up and if they withdraw later, they can join an 'Open Expedition' with the expedition company or discuss a refund from them.

All payments will be finalised by 1st April 2028. Therefore, there will be **NO** distractions for students during their Year 12 mock exams/final Yr13 exams in May/June 2028. They just have an amazing expedition to look forward to afterwards!

If you have any questions prior to the evening event, please do not hesitate to contact me directly or:

The Outlook Team

Telephone: 01248 672760

Email: joe.newington@outlookexpeditions.com

Web: <https://outlookexpeditions.com>

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Ballantyne

USF International Expedition Lead, DofE Lead

joanna.ballantyne@avonbourneacademy.org.uk

Principal: Michelle Dyer