

# Outdoor Education 2019/2020

TANGLIN TRUST SCHOOL 657, 1995

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Progressive, meaningful programmes that build outdoor skills from an early age have enormous benefits for student wellness and academic resilience. Outdoor Education can be so much more than the annual school trip and at Tanglin Trust School we are committed to making sure that carefully constructed outdoor learning is embedded throughout the school curriculum.

For our very youngest children in Infant School, a morning trip to West Coast Park in Singapore with the class teacher feels like a real expedition. By the time our students reach Year 12 they are ready for an extended trek in the Himalayas after their summer exams.

Finding the right level of challenge and adventure for students can be tricky. At Tanglin, we strike a balance between finding an inspirational location as well as a variety of unique experiences.

Part of the answer lies in the progression. For each year group, we scaffold the new experience to build upon the learning that happened on previous trips.



## **Infant School**

Every day, our Infant children use our exciting outdoor play areas to discover the world that is on their doorstep. There are still many pockets of natural beauty to be found around our campus, including open grassland, mature tropical banyan trees as well as the beautifully kept gardens in the historic Wessex estate. We are very proud of our wonderful location and are excited to be developing our own programme of Forest School outdoor activities.

In the Infant School there are usually two class day trips each year. Children explore the natural environment and wildlife in our local parks, as well as learning about our amazing 'city in a garden'. Learning how to navigate the world around you with increasing confidence is such a crucial stage in the development of every child and the Infant trips enable all children to gradually develop this independence so they are ready for their first residential trip in Year 3.





### **Junior School**

Our residentials from Year 3 to 6 enrich the curriculum by allowing students to use skills learned inside the classroom in a different environment while also increasing cultural awareness. Outdoor learning is also deeply and explicitly connected with the classroom curriculum, for example, the Year 6 base turns into a real living rainforest and the artistic, cultural influence of the tribes of Sarawak can be seen adorning the walls and doors of each classroom in the weeks running up to the trip. By the time our students go to Sarawak they already know what they are going to see in the long house, and they are well informed about the wildlife – which makes the learning even more impactful.





## **Senior School**

Our Key Stage 3 residential programmes are designed to develop in scope and sequence, so the Year 7 Wild Week in Thailand is very much an introduction to getting around the great outdoors and developing basic skills such as paddling a kayak, riding a mountain bike or camping overnight. Year 8's 3-day adventure trip to Malaysia allows students to exercise their outdoor skills to a greater degree and apply what they learned to new situations - such as stand-up paddle boarding, simple map reading and mountain biking on plantation roads. In Year 9, the students can travel to India where their ability to paddle a raft safely is tested on the mighty Ganges River. In Year 9, we also offer an alternative non-residential outdoor activity programme in Singapore for those students who choose not to travel so far.

By Year 10, students have a choice of trips where the skill levels required are higher – whether it is mountain walking or jungle trekking, river kayaking or helping on the local rice farm. We use the International Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE) scheme as our framework, so all our older students learn basic expedition skills training, and as a group they carry out an overnight Adventurous Journey involving simple navigation, camping out and cooking their own food.





Year 12 Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) trips and expeditions take place at the end of exams in Term 3. These trips are often a highlight of students' time at Tanglin and there is a strong emphasis on learning service and community-based projects. Some of the trips are remote and adventurous, others focus on local community projects.

Students must learn to take responsibility for their own decisions in the outdoors. This is where the magic lies – in teaching students how to look after themselves and support each other in a challenging environment, we are actively developing and exercising our core values:

> Respect Responsibility Purpose.

While we always expect every student to enjoy a safe, enjoyable and positive learning experience on our trips and residentials, we also want them to reflect deeply on what they have learned. The true value of outdoor learning lies in our ability to make real world connections, and to link our experiences outside the classroom back to our everyday lives at school and at home. It is therefore the quality of the outdoor activities and the long-term impact of outdoor learning on everyone that is the most important outcome.

## Year Group School Trips

Sixth Form students who are taking Biology, ESS or Geography will be expected to attend the following compulsory curriculum trips:

Year 12 IB Biology and ESS, Sedili beach, Malaysia

Year 12 IB Geography, MaeKok River Village Project, Chiang Mai, Thailand

#### Year 12 A Level Biology, Sedili beach, Malaysia







Nursery Labrador Park Chinese Gardens

Reception Wet Market and Cold Storage Singapore Zoo

> Year 1 West Coast Park Jacob Ballas Gardens

> > Year 2 Boat Quay Sungei Bulloh

Year 3 Singapore Zoo Sleepover

Year 4 Pulau Ubin and Sentosa Island

> Year 5 Malacca

Year 6 Sarawak

**Year 7** Wild Week – Kaeng Krachang National Park, Thailand

Year 8 Eco Kulim - Johor, Malaysia

Year 9 India Adventure – Rishikesh, North India

Year 10

Expedition Week Australia Adventure Thailand Mae Teng River Adventure Thailand Chiang Mai Adventure Thailand River Kwai Kayak Expedition North Vietnam Adventure

#### Year 12

#### **CAS Expeditions Week**

Kampong Experience, Borneo Caring for Cambodia, Siem Riep Orca Scuba, Malaysia Mae Kok River Village, Thailand Walk, Japan Trek, Tibet River Expedition, Mongolia

Please note that programmes are updated each year and may change.









## Enrichment Experiences

In addition to year group programmes, we also offer an outstanding range of optional enrichment programmes and competitive events. These encourage personal development and provide fantastic opportunities for emotional independence, physical challenge and adventure.

- Year 12 A Level Geography, Chiang Mai, Thailand
- Year 12 A Level and IB Art, Luang Prabang, Laos
- Year 9-13 Spanish Homestay, Valencia
- World Scholars Cup (Yale, USA)
- FOBISIA/SEASAC Festivals (Music, Arts) and other competitions
- Easter Holiday Ski Trip To Les Elfes (Verbier, Switzerland)
- Year 12 UK Universities trip
- Sporting competitions e.g.
  'Feeding Frenzy' and Brisbane Touch Rugby Tournament
- International Duke of Edinburgh Award
  (DofE) expeditions
- Model United Nations (MUN)





## Health and Safety

Throughout the year we will provide many opportunities for students to travel off campus on educational visits and residential school trips. The Outdoor Education Department works very closely with our external professional providers, travel partners and our own teachers in the planning and preparation of all these trips.

Our main priority will always be to provide a safe and secure learning environment for all the students in our care. We always do our best to ensure that our mission to provide a range of truly inspirational educational experiences is carefully balanced with the need to keep costs realistic and affordable.

## **Outdoor Education Team**

If you would like to contact the Outdoor Education team, please Email: outdooreducation@tts.edu.sg Telephone: 6770 3456 or 6770 3537

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