



# Moonrakers

2021-2022

## What is Moonrakers?

Moonrakers is a programme of adventure activities and experiences during which pupils are expected to challenge themselves while solving problems and working alongside other people.

It takes place on a Friday afternoon during the timetabled School day and pupils participate in groups that remain the same for most activities.

## Why does Moonrakers exist?

Moonrakers exists to provide an environment where pupils can test themselves and develop *Adventurous Behaviours*. These are the behaviours that allow for success not only in adventure but in life. They are:

- To be open to trying new experiences and entering new environments
- To show resilience and good humour in the face of adversity
- To be able to recognise, analyse and control risks and to use this knowledge to act boldly
- To be able to learn from experiences, whether successful or not
- To treat the environments you enter and the cultures and people you encounter with dignity and respect
- To be able to admit and correct our mistakes
- To be as concerned for others as we are for ourselves and treat both with respect
- To be organised but flexible
- To be able to provide leadership where needed and to follow leadership where appropriate
- To enjoy our experiences

## Is Moonrakers optional?

Moonrakers is considered part of the curriculum at Dauntsey's, much like Maths or Geography. Pupils are expected to treat it as a lesson and to turn up ready to take part.



However, it is not a boot-camp! Staff will strongly encourage pupils to take part in all activities and they will be expected to challenge themselves, but there is no shouting or punishment for being scared! Where a pupil feels unable to participate in an activity, they will still be expected to remain with their group and provide support for others.

Your support in ensuring that pupils treat Moonrakers as they would any other lessons and engage with it to the best of their abilities is very much appreciated.



## What will the Moonrakers be doing?

While the programme varies from year to year the plan this year is for the Moonrakers to experience archery, climbing, cycling, the Dungeon Challenge, expedition skills, first aid, geocaching, kayaking, navigation, orienteering, outdoor cooking, pioneering, river crossing, rookie lifeguarding, a ropes course, shooting, sub-aqua and survival skills.

In addition, there is a Moonrakers Camp in the Summer Term and more information will be sent about this closer to the time.

## Are the activities dangerous?

All the activities that the Moonrakers take part in are covered by the Adventure Education Department's risk management system. This is an extensive collection of policies, risk assessments, operating procedures and training which allows us to manage the risk in everything that we do down to an acceptable level. All activities are supervised by a member of staff.



## How do pupils know what they will be doing?



A significant educational goal of Moonrakers is to help the pupils learn to be organised. As part of their responsibilities during the programme, they will be expected to check the timetable to see what activity they are doing on a given week, and to make sure they are in the right place and the right time for that activity.

## Where do they go for Moonrakers?

Some activities happen on the main School site, some are a short minibus trip away from campus and some are at the Manor.

Those pupils doing activities at the Manor are expected to walk from the main campus to the Manor along a prescribed route without supervision. Occasionally pupils will be working in small groups in the local countryside with remote supervision. It would be useful if you could remind your child that safe, sensible behaviour is required at these and all other times.

## What do they need to bring?

In addition to being able to look up where to be and when, full details of what pupils need to wear and bring with them are with the timetable and they have been shown how to find this information.

On a Friday they should come to School in their School uniform and change for Moonrakers at Long Break.

If you could remind them to check these details on a Thursday night so they are ready for Friday, that would be most helpful.

## Where can I get more information?

There is a page on the School intranet (Firefly) which contains all the information that pupils need for Moonrakers. It can be found here:

<https://dauntseys.fireflycloud.net/adventure-education/programmes/moonrakers>

