

5 June 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Camps International Expedition 2025**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust has a long-standing relationship, spanning over a decade with Camps International, an organisation that facilitates life-enhancing student expeditions across Africa, Asia and Latin America. During that time, around 400 students from four Outwood schools have travelled as part of a Camps International expedition to Ecuador, Kenya, Peru, Uganda, Cambodia or Borneo. Students' trips to these countries have contributed to long term sustainable project work, in addition to seeing them embark on their own personal life changing journeys. I would like to offer your child the opportunity to experience this.

I have been working closely with Camps International to widen the offer to all schools across the Trust, in particular to current Year 8 and 9 students. The first ever Trust-wide expedition will take place in 2025 to Cambodia and will bring together students from all Outwood schools. In addition to the project work they'll be a part of, students will also complete their PADI diving qualification (alternative qualifications will be available to those unable to engage in diving). This trip will be the first in a programme of biennial Trust-wide expeditions, ensuring this unique opportunity is available to other students in the future.

I recognise that many families will be concerned about the cost. Like Outwood, Camps International is passionate about ensuring no child is disadvantaged or excluded due to personal circumstances. All expeditions are funded through student-led fundraising activities with input and support from school and Camps International. Fundraising activities will take place over a 22 month period to give students as much time as possible to raise the required funds. Through taking responsibility for their own fundraising, students will develop valuable life skills. I am also working with our suppliers to secure corporate sponsorship.

Students will learn more about the expedition in an assembly next half term. Your child's school will send additional parental information including details of a Parent Information Evening which will take place after the May half term holiday. If you/your child would like to find out more, please contact Miss Kaye or Mr Bray at school.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Julie Slater  
**Chief Executive Principal, Secondary**