

24 January 2025

Dear Family,

### **Year 7 Outdoor Education Camping Opportunity**

We have an amazing opportunity for your child, we will be offering an outdoor camping experience as one of our first outdoor education activities at Thorns.

Outdoor education plays a crucial role in developing essential life skills. Students can engage with the natural environment, challenging themselves to step out of their comfort zones, fostering resilience and perseverance. This tenacity is built through overcoming obstacles and adapting to new situations, which are common in outdoor settings.

Moreover, outdoor education nurtures ambition by encouraging students to set and achieve personal goals, whether it's reaching the summit of a hill or mastering a new outdoor skill. These experiences instil a sense of accomplishment and drive, motivating students to pursue their aspirations with determination.

Curiosity is naturally sparked in outdoor environments, where students can explore and discover the wonders of nature. This hands-on learning approach stimulates inquisitiveness and a desire to understand the world around them, promoting lifelong learning and intellectual growth.

Incorporating outdoor education into the curriculum not only enhances academic learning but also supports the holistic development of students, preparing them to face future challenges with increased confidence and enthusiasm.

This event will take place on a Friday evening after school and students will participate in a range of activities during the evening, including cooking a camping meal.

We want to reduce costs as much as possible and therefore for each of our outdoor events we ask for a contribution of £5 via ParentPay.

The only kit that needs to be purchased is food for the evening (suggestions will be provided) and a roll mat (makes the experience comfortable but is optional). A suggested affordable option can be found using this link: [Roll Mat | Mountain Warehouse GB](#).

Students can bring a sleeping bag; however, a duvet and pillow will be perfectly fine. A suggested affordable option for a sleeping bag can be found using this link: [Eurohike Snooze 200 Sleeping Bag | GO Outdoors](#).

This will be a rolling programme, and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. The camping experience will of course be weather dependent.

If your child is interested in taking part please complete the following form:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=M3cpbyH17EgwKDhN0u2mQ0kuv8v3NuFMkcKyKfGAIYxURFdHMEVVUU1GTzlaR0tOVkZaOVFPSzQyWSQIQCNjPTEu>

If successful in this round a request for payment will appear on your ParentPay account and a further letter will provide you with the proposed date, equipment required and student expectations.

Yours sincerely,

*J Davies*

Mr Davies  
**L4L Teacher**

*M Cusworth-Yafai*

Mr Cusworth-Yafai  
**Assistant Principal**