



Outdoor Education for Schools

Based on the banks of the River Mersey in Heaton Mersey, Venture Out uses the river, woodland and meadows, pond and surrounding trails to provide outdoor education and environmental activities year round to local Primary, Secondary and SEN Schools.

We take pride in our mission of helping the schools of Greater Manchester and Cheshire enjoy the great outdoors on their back door step.

Our Programs

From multi-activity fun days to let off steam at the end of term, to accredited courses and study days, we offer a wide range of programs for schools. We have outlined our most popular programs in this brochure but if you have other ideas please get in touch as we are flexible and love the opportunity to discuss your plans.

Staff & Group size

We try and work around ratios of 10 pupils to 1 activity leader, this can mean that we divide classes and school groups into smaller groups of 10-12 for each activity.

We ask that you provide 1 member of staff/helper to each group of 10 who will stay with the group all day and supervise them at break and lunch.



Our Activities

| Activity | Description | Group Size | Staffing |
|-----------------------------|---|------------|-----------------|
| Mountain Bike skills & ride | Starts with skills challenges and coaching on, then a ride on local trails to areas where more skills can be used or coached. We expect pupils to know how to ride a bike to take part. | 10-12 | VO+School Staff |
| Archery | Pupils are shown how to hold a bow, mount an arrow and how to adjust their aim. They then practice shooting, play games and have competitions. | 10-12 | VO+School Staff |
| Bouldering / Climbing game | Using our bouldering wall to learn climbing technique through games. This is better than a climbing wall where they must take turns and are often scared by height. | 10-12 | VO+School Staff |
| Canoeing | Open canoes are used to play some games. 3 pupils to a canoe. Canoes are usually rafted to make them impossible to turn over. | 10-14 | VO+School Staff |
| Kayaking | Sit On Top kayaks are used, these can be doubles or singles. We only offer this to schools that are bringing 30 or less on the day as we can only launch 10 pupils at a time. For larger school groups, we offer rafted canoeing. | 10 | VO+School Staff |
| Teamwork challenge | These are a series of teamwork challenge games. Pupils work in teams of 5-7. This can be made cheaper by being 'self-led'. For this teachers facilitate a group whilst a VO staff member supports them. | 10 - 14 | VO+School Staff |
| Orienteering | There is a permanent orienteering course in the area outside of our grounds. The pupils work in groups of 3 to go around with a map and score sheet to find the markers and draw the symbols on the markers. AVO staff can lead this or school staff can be instructed how to run it and then run it themselves. (cheap option) | 10-20 | VO+School Staff |



Canoes are rafted to make them impossible to turn over.



Local trails are used for skills practice and to build confidence.

We have lots of activities for different abilities and confidence levels. If pupils can't ride a bike we offer bouldering as an alternative. If you bring 60 pupils only half will ride, whilst the other half boulder. All prices are excluding VAT and teachers go free.



Our covered bouldering area is perfect for games and skills.



Archery takes place on the field or undercover.

3 Session Multi-Activity Day

Cost:
£23 per pupil. (Ex VAT)

30 or 60 Students + School Staff 1:10

Arrive: 9:30am - Depart: 2:30pm

Perfect for Year 4 or older, this shorter day introduces our activities at a relaxed pace allowing the children to interact, learn and develop in a low pressure environment. Children will work in groups of 10.

Activity Options: Rafted Canoeing, Climbing, Archery, Orienteering, Team Challenges.

Learning Outcomes: Team-working, Resilience, Personal Challenge.

| Arrive & Welcome | 9:30 | Group 1 & 2 | Group 3&4 | Group 5&6 |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Activity 1 | 9:45 - 11:00 | Canoeing | Orienteering or Team Challenges | Archery or Climb |
| | 11:00 - 11:15 | Break | | |
| Activity 2 | 11:15 - 12:30 | Archery or Climb | Canoeing | Orienteering or Team Challenges |
| | 12:30 - 13:00 | Lunch | | |
| Activity 3 | 13:00 - 14:15 | Orienteering or Team Challenges | Archery or Climb | Canoeing |
| | 14:15 | Pack Up | | |
| | 14:30 | Depart | | |

4 Session Multi-Activity Day

30 or 80 Students + School Staff 1:10

Arrive: 9:30am - Depart: 3:45/4pm

Excellent for encouraging better team working and resilience in Years 4 - 8. This day pushes the children to develop their communication skills, group work and physical ability.

Activity Options: Team Challenges, Rafted Canoeing, Biking, Climbing or Archery

Learning Outcomes: Communication, Group work, Physical Challenge

Cost:
£26 per pupil. (Ex VAT)

| Arrive & Welcome | 9:30 | Group 1 & 2 | Group 3&4 | Group 5&6 |
|------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Activity 1 | 9:45 - 11:00 | Team Challenges | Team Challenges | Team Challenges |
| | 11:00 - 11:15 | Break | | |
| Activity 2 | 11:15 - 12:30 | Bike / Climb | Canoeing | Archery |
| | 12:30 - 13:00 | Lunch | | |
| Activity 3 | 13:00 - 14:15 | Archery | Bike / Climb | Canoeing |
| Activity 4 | 14:15 - 15:30 | Canoeing | Archery | Bike / Climb |
| | 15:45 - 16:00 | Pack Up & Depart | | |

Year 7 Transition Days

Up to 80 pupils + School Staff 1:10

Arrive: 9:00am - Depart: 4:00pm

Ideal for new Year 7s making the move into high school, this day is designed to help groups and individuals bond by promoting communication and team working whilst having plenty of fun.

Activity Options: Team Challenges, Archery, Rafted Canoeing, Climbing or Biking

Learning Outcomes: Team Bonding, Communication, Fun!

Cost:
£26 per pupil. (Ex VAT)

| Arrive & Welcome | 9:00 | Group 1 | Group 2 | Group 3 | Group 4 | Group 5 | Group 6 | Group 7 | Group 8 |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Activity 1 | 9:15 - 10:30 | Canoeing | Bike Games | Archery | Team Challenges | Canoeing | Bike Games | Archery | Team Challenges |
| | 10:30 - 10:45 | Break | | | | | | | |
| Activity 2 | 10:45 - 12:15 | Team Challenges | Canoeing | Bike Games | Archery | Team Challenges | Canoeing | Bike Games | Archery |
| | 12:15 - 12:45 | Lunch | | | | | | | |
| Activity 3 | 12:45 - 14:15 | Archery | Team Challenges | Canoeing | Bike Games | Archery | Team Challenges | Canoeing | Bike Games |
| | 14:15 - 14:30 | Break | | | | | | | |
| Activity 3 | 14:30 - 16:00 | Bike Games | Archery | Team Challenges | Canoeing | Bike Games | Archery | Team Challenges | Canoeing |
| | 16:00 | Depart | | | | | | | |



‘Back to School’ Team Building Events

From 6 - 160 participants.

Arrive / Depart: TBA

Fun teamwork sessions for all ages, these are also great for staff away days. Teamwork events work for groups as small as 6 and as large as 160 (80 in the morning and 80 in the afternoon) and some options can be run on school grounds, please get in touch to discuss your requirements.

Team Challenge Options: Mission Impossible, Raft Building, Rafted Canoe Trip. (team crewed) Combo Options.

Learning Outcomes: Team Bonding, Communication, Fun!

Cost:
£20 - 23 per person.
(Ex VAT)

Environmental Study Days

Up to 30 pupils + Staff 1:10

Arrive / Depart: TBA

Uniquely situated in the Mersey Valley Nature Park and at the start of the river Mersey flood plain, we have areas of woodland, meadow, a fantastic dipping pond, and of course the River Mersey itself for engaging environmental studies that cover aspects of science and geography curriculums.

Activity Options:

3 Habitats Study. (KS3) Class conducts short, comparison studies of the pond, meadow and woodland.

Earth Education (KS2) Sensory engagement walk followed by role play activities that explore selected ecological concepts

River Study (KS2 & KS3) Our most popular offering starts with a river study in the morning, including dipping for invertebrates, then a canoe trip in the afternoon to view flood protection and erosion protection features. Classroom materials are sent beforehand to prepare the pupils.

Cost:

£20 - 26 per pupil.
(Ex VAT)



Survival / Bushcraft Days

30 - 60 pupils + Staff 1:10

Arrive: 9:30am - Depart: 2:30pm

A full day of learning how to survive in the wild! Learn fire lighting skills, how to cook in the open, how to create a shelter and paddle your canoe. These days can be adapted to compliment KS2 History curriculum, Vikings and Stone Age themes.

Activity Options: Canoeing, Fire Lighting, Shelter Building.

Cost:
£25 per pupil. (Ex VAT)

| Arrive & Welcome | 9:30 | Group 1 & 2 | Group 3&4 | Group 5&6 |
|------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Activity 1 | 9:45 - 11:00 | Canoeing | Shelter Building | Fire Lighting |
| | 11:00 - 11:15 | Break | | |
| Activity 2 | 11:15 - 12:30 | Fire Lighting | Canoeing | Shelter Building |
| | 12:30 - 13:00 | Lunch | | |
| Activity 3 | 13:00 - 14:15 | Shelter Building | Fire Lighting | Canoeing |
| | 14:15 | Pack Up | | |
| | 14:30 | Depart | | |

Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions

We provide all aspects of a DofE expedition programme, from managing the initial planning and expedition training through to running the practice and qualifying expeditions themselves. We take care of everything from advising parents and handling the expedition reports to DofE paperwork. This helps make the job of school DofE manager as straightforward and stress-free as possible and gives parents peace of mind. If you would like more information please visit the website or request our dedicated DofE brochure.



Bronze Package

One day training package
(including practice expedition
route planning)

Two day/one night practice
expedition

Two day/one night qualifying
expedition



Silver Package

One day training package
(including practice expedition
route planning)

Three day/two night practice
expedition

Three day/two night qualifying
expedition



Gold Package

One day training package
(including practice expedition
route planning)

Three day/two night practice
expedition

Five day/four night qualifying
expedition

Safety & Education

Venture Out is run by Ian and Kevin, both ex teachers, with a wide range of outdoor sport qualifications, and over 20 years of experience of working with young people. Our staff are all qualified outdoor professionals, DBS checked and First Aid trained. We are all passionate about the outdoors and understand how important outdoor education is to children (and adults). We work closely with schools to deliver safe, fun and educational trips for all ages.

Venture Out is a Limited Company. We are a British Canoeing Delivery Partner and are licenced with the Adventurous Activities Licencing Authority (Reg no: L11326/R1942).

Full details of our Public Liability Insurance, Risk assessments, operating policies and procedure are available on request.



We hope to see you soon

Please remember this is just a snapshot of what we offer, we have provided a range of other courses, sessions and coaching including GCSE PE support, Alternative Curriculum programs as well as NGB courses and Teacher Away Days. If there is something you would like to discuss please get in touch.

Contact Us

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