

ELLESMERE COLLEGE 2013

ALASKA EXPEDITION ITINERARY

October 2013

Please note that the group may be split into 2 x groups to access activities and rotate. The information below is a general overview of the whole expedition.

Pre-departure meeting and kit check held at Ellesmere College the day before departing.

Day 1 Depart UK for flight to Anchorage, approximate flying time is 18 hours. Drive to Base-camp for a welcome dinner, then bed.

Day 2 Rest/Prep Day. A local hike and orientation of base camp. Afternoon break into groups, orientation, food packing, gear check. A relaxing introduction day.

Day 3 - Day 6 Trekking phase in the Talkeetna Mountains. The aim will be to complete a circular route which will be lead and planned between the Expedition Mentor and the group. The emphasis will be on the group taking on as much of the decision making as possible. This will include daily briefs & debriefs, identifying goals for the day and general expedition responsibilities. Each team member will be responsible for elements of the expedition. This phase is designed to challenge the young people both physically and mentally offering the many opportunities to learn and develop personal, team and leadership skills as well as engaging with the environment around them.

Day 7- Day 9 Sea Kayaking in Prince William Sound where the group will work both in pairs and have the chance to paddle single kayaks as well. As well as acquiring and refining these new skills this is where the wildlife will be found. The Sound is a honey pot of wildlife being home to many birds, including Puffins and Bald Eagles as well as sea-life such as Humpback and Orca Whales, Sea Otters and Harbour Seals.

Day 10-12 Ice Climbing on Matanuska or Portage Glacier. Student will be instructed in ice climbing techniques, how to tie on to the rope, belay a climber and set up a bottom rope system. All these skill are transferable to UK indoor and outdoor climbing. This phase may be interchangeable with a small project or scientific element with local conservation bodies and institutes.

Day 13 White Water rafting/Dog sledging followed by return to base camp to de-rig and repack for following day return home and a celebration final meal.

Day 14 Depart Anchorage for UK

The price will include the following:

Fundraising support for participants

Meetings with Parents and SMT to launch the Expedition

One UK training weekend

Full UK build up support

Full UK emergency support whilst in country

All air travel to and from the UK

All transport once in country

All food in country

All technical equipment for activities

1:6 Mentor to participant (including school staff) ratio

Access to discounted equipment deals through our partnership with Joe Brown Outdoor Stores (www.Joe-Brown.com)