

13<sup>th</sup> July 2026

**Re: Expedition Day 2026**

Dear families,

As part of our philosophy and values, we encourage our pupils to 'climb their mountain to university or a real-life alternative.' As part of this journey, at the start of the next academic year, we are planning to take our next Year 8 students (our current Year 7) on an Expedition Walk to **Formby beach** to experience the sense of achievement that comes from setting a goal, working together and successfully reaching it.

The trip will take place on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September**, the students' first day of the new academic year. We will leave from school, so students should arrive as normal before 8:15am and will return to school before the normal end of the school day, at 3:05pm.

During the visit, pupils will complete a walk through the National Trust's Formby site, exploring a unique landscape of sandy beaches, towering sand dunes and peaceful pine woodland. The route offers opportunities to learn about the local coastal environment and wildlife, including the rare red squirrel, for which Formby is one of the most important conservation areas in the country. Pupils will enjoy a varied and engaging outdoor experience while developing their appreciation of the natural world.

This trip is about much more than simply completing a walk. It is an opportunity for pupils to take steps on their journey towards their future aspirations. By walking alongside their friends and their Advisor, students will have the chance to build positive relationships, develop a sense of belonging and strengthen their year group community. The experience will help students understand that every goal begins with a single step and that, together, they can overcome challenges and reach the destination they aspire to. Expedition Day is intended to become an annual event, with the treks becoming progressively harder to mirror the way their educational and life challenges will also become more demanding.

Pupils will be expected to wear their PE kit and sensible footwear, along with an appropriate waterproof jacket if rain is forecast.

The heavily subsidised cost of this trip is £7 per student, which also includes a packed lunch provided by school. Pupils may bring additional food (nut-free) and drinks (no energy, caffeinated, canned or fizzy drinks, as per our normal school expectation) with them to supplement this. We would advocate for them bringing **plenty of water** to drink throughout the walk.

We believe this will be a rewarding and memorable experience for all students and an excellent opportunity to begin the academic year with a shared sense of purpose, achievement and community.

**Action required:**

1. To provide your consent for your child to attend the trip, please scan the QR code or [click this link](#) and submit the form.
2. Pay for the trip via the MCAS app by Friday 28 August. For help with either signing up or logging into MCAS, please visit our website using this link: <https://www.dixonsba.com/about/my-child-at-school-app>



Thank you for your continued support this academic year. We are very proud of our students and can't wait to see them in the new year to keep working hard to climb their mountains.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Lamb

Assistant Vice Principal / Class of 2030 Senior Link

