



Education
Endowment
Foundation



SCHOOLS WANTED

FOR EEF RESEARCH ON ADVENTURE LEARNING

Take part in a trial on character development and attainment



This is your opportunity to take part in important research and contribute to supporting schools to make the best choices on interventions and help improve the life chances of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

In autumn term 2019, 2,376 Year 9 pupils from 99 secondary schools across England will take part in a trial to assess the impact of an adventure learning experience on character development and attainment.

The research programme will be led by the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) and independently evaluated by a team of researchers from Sheffield Hallam University (SHU).

The Outward Bound Trust and Commando Joe's have been specially selected as the delivery partners for this research trial.

This research trial will determine the impact of adventure learning on pupils':

- SELF-REGULATION
- ENGAGEMENT IN SCHOOL
- BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL
- ATTAINMENT



The research



The aim of the research is to assess the impact of an adventure learning experience on character development and attainment. We have space for 2,376 current Year 8 pupils from 99 secondary schools (24 pupils per school) from across England. The intervention will take place when the pupils are in Year 9 during the autumn term.

Once all schools and pupils have been confirmed on the trial, baseline measures will be taken, and schools will be randomised by the evaluation team into **three groups**:



2,376 SPACES AVAILABLE

A. Outward Bound Adventure



Participants will take part in a five-day residential outdoor learning course at an Outward Bound centre.

B. Commando Joe's Adventure



Participants will take part in a five-day in-school adventure learning course facilitated by Commando Joe's.

C. Control group



Participants will not take part in an adventure learning course. These schools will be given funding to put towards the development of the pupils.

Who can take part in this trial?

This is for secondary schools in England with a minimum of 20% of pupils eligible for pupil premium.

Participants need to be current Year 8 pupils who are achieving below their expected levels of progress because of lack of engagement with education and/or lack of character skills to support learning.

At least 50% of the pupils selected should be recognised as disadvantaged, either in receipt of pupil premium or through economic, social or environmental issues known to the school.

The programme is especially suitable for pupils with the greatest scope for improvement based on their current attainment levels versus their predicted actual attainment ability, regardless of their starting point.

Teachers involved should be experienced and in regular contact with the cohort. They should be able to hold the pupils to account as well as motivate and encourage them.

This would particularly suit a middle leader who would like to support a whole school initiative working with external providers to raise levels of progress. They should be open to new ideas and willing to track and monitor pupils.

- ✓ Secondary schools with a minimum of 20% pupil premium
- ✓ At least 50% of the pupils selected should be recognised as disadvantaged
- ✓ Especially suitable for pupils with the greatest scope for improvement
- ✓ Experienced teachers who are in regular contact with the cohort
- ✓ Middle leaders who would like to support a whole school initiative

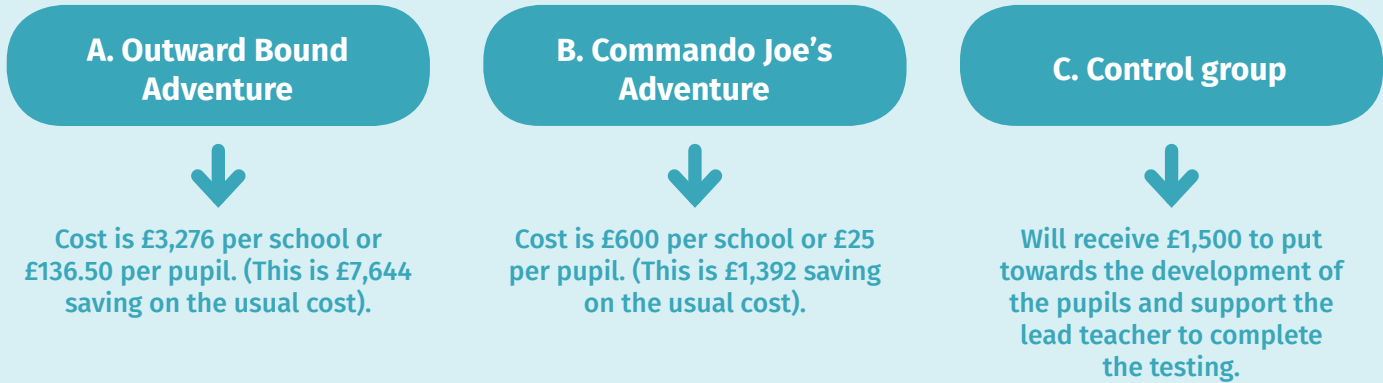


How much investment is needed?

The research trial is 70% funded by the EEF, The Outward Bound Trust and Commando Joe's. If selected to participate in the intervention groups, a 30% contribution will need to be paid by the school. If selected into the control group, schools will receive funding per pupil to put towards their development.

70% FUNDED OPPORTUNITY
 Thanks to the funding provided by the **EEF, The Outward Bound Trust** and **Commando Joe's**, **70%** of the course costs will be paid for.

This is how it works:



Timeline

AUTUMN TERM 2018	Research trial registration open.
END OF 2018	Schools recruited to take part in the trial.
SPRING TERM 2019	Baseline measures taken for pupil self-regulation, pupil school engagement and behaviour. Schools randomly selected into three groups and informed of which group they are in.
SUMMER TERM 2019	Pre-intervention work with schools (pre-course preparation and planning).
AUTUMN TERM 2019 / SPRING TERM 2020	Outward Bound and Commando Joe's courses take place.
WITHIN TWO WEEKS OF INTERVENTION	Measures taken for self-regulation and school engagement.
2020	Measures taken for self-regulation, school engagement, behaviour and attainment. Telephone interviews and/or school case studies.



Project team

Education Endowment Foundation



The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) was founded in 2011 by The Sutton Trust, as lead charity in partnership with Impetus-PEF, with a £125m grant from the Department for Education.

The EEF is an independent charity which aims to raise the attainment of 3-18 year-olds, particularly those facing disadvantage; develop their essential life skills; and prepare young people for the world of work and further study.

It does this by generating evidence of what works to improve teaching and learning, funding robust trials of high-potential programmes and approaches which have yet to be tested. The EEF then supports schools, nurseries and colleges across the country in using evidence so that it has the maximum possible benefit for young people.

Independent Evaluator



The independent researchers at Sheffield Hallam University have a strong combination of research and practical experience that is relevant to this evaluation, including experience in large scale mixed-methods evaluations as well as secondary school teaching and youth work.

The Outward Bound Trust



The Outward Bound Trust is an educational charity with a mission to stop self-doubt, remove limitations - whether real or perceived, and end the fear of failure in young people. We help teach young people the most important lesson they could ever learn: to believe in themselves. It's the super power that transforms their behaviour throughout school, higher education, work, and beyond.

Commando Joe's



Commando Joe's is one of the UK's leading educational providers, utilising the expertise of former services personnel to improve the educational outcomes for pupils through using the core values associated with military ethos such as self-discipline, confidence and teamwork. Our school programmes are well established and allows young people to develop life skills, character traits, attributes and behaviours, which have a positive impact on their educational attainment, engagement, employability and well-being.



Next steps

1. Register your interest at outwardbound.org.uk/EEFresearch
2. A representative will get in touch with you to confirm your eligibility and answer any questions
3. We will confirm your place and send you all the relevant information
4. The research trial will begin.

Register your interest for more information

To find out more and register your interest, visit outwardbound.org.uk/EEFresearch

There is no obligation to commit at this stage and we'll be in touch to discuss this further and answer any questions you may have.