

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) - UPDATE

As we head towards the end of the year, we felt it important to share with you what we have been doing during 'lockdown' and what our plans for 2021 are.

Like us, I'm sure, you will have found the last seven months challenging, but I hope that like us, you have found your own way or ways to cope with the difficulties we have all had to confront.

The Venture Force team have been working hard planning for all the expeditions originally scheduled and rescheduled for 2021. Despite all the uncertainty, we are approaching the future positively and to this end we are proceeding on the basis that safe travel will be possible during the 2021 expedition season. Thus, your planned expedition will take place as intended. Clearly, we cannot be sure of that, but we do need to plan on that basis so that we can deliver safe, but challenging expeditions when the time comes.

The Venture Force team hold regular review meetings with input from the travel industry and medical experts, as well as considering advice and guidance from the Department for Education; these will continue weekly for as long as necessary, until we are told that it is safe to travel.

For our school expeditions, now that schools have reopened, we will be increasing the frequency of our dialogue with the school leadership teams and lead teachers. We will ensure that you are made aware of any significant developments or decisions. Expeditions are not delivered successfully without significant detailed planning and, likewise, clients need to have confidence in that process and the associated timelines. Accordingly, it is likely that we will have to make a final decision about summer travel for our school teams before the Easter holiday in 2021. We will, of course, do that based on all the information and advice available at the time, not forgetting the safety of our clients, their teachers, our leaders and the communities we visit.

As soon as any decision is reached about your expedition, we will be in touch. We very much hope those decisions will be positive and we can venture forward together on our epic adventures.

Statement date: 19 October 2020