

## **CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) - UPDATE**

As we reach the end of the year, we felt it important to update you on the preparations we are making ready for expeditions in 2021.

Like us, I'm sure, you will have found this year 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 continue working hard to plan for the expeditions scheduled to take place in 2021. This includes maintaining contact with all our in-country agents to ensure that the necessary COVID-19 protocols are in place across all aspects of our expeditions to maximise safety for everyone. We are approaching the future positively and 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 continue to 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 take place for as long as necessary, until we are told that it is safe to travel.

For our school expeditions, we will re-connect with school leadership teams and lead teachers early in the New Year and maintain frequent dialogue. 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: 14 December 2020