



MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL

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13 December 2024

World Challenge Trip to Cambodia 2026 - Year 11 and 12

We are excited to inform you about an incredible opportunity for your child to participate in a *World Challenge* expedition to **Cambodia** in the summer of **2026**. This adventure offers a unique blend of cultural exploration, community engagement, and personal development, and we would love for your child to be a part of it.

What is World Challenge?

World Challenge is a global program that enables students to embark on life-changing expeditions, combining physical challenges, community service, and cultural experiences. These trips are designed to foster resilience, leadership, and teamwork while helping young people engage with different cultures and contribute to meaningful local initiatives.

Expedition Overview

This summer expedition to Cambodia will be a 14-day adventure, which includes a combination of trekking, community work, and cultural immersion. Here is a brief overview of the itinerary:

- **Day 1:** Arrive in Phnom Penh, the vibrant capital of Cambodia.
- **Day 2:** Explore Phnom Penh, learning about its history and culture.
- **Days 3-6:** Trek to the **Chi Phat community**, where a key initiative to combat illegal logging has been established. Students will experience local life and enjoy meals with the community.
- **Days 7-11:** Engage in a **community project**, working with the local people to understand and contribute to efforts in **rice farming, water filtration, and education**.
- **Days 12-13:** Visit **Siem Reap and Angkor Wat**, where students will explore ancient temples by bike or kayak on **Tonle Sap**, the largest freshwater lake in Southeast Asia.
- **Day 14:** Travel back home after an enriching and unforgettable experience.

Please see the following [link](#) for further details on the expedition.

Accommodation

Throughout the trip, students will stay in **basic accommodation** such as hostels and local guesthouses. This reflects the nature of the adventure, where students will immerse themselves in the local culture while living simply and authentically. We ask for your understanding that while we will ensure comfort and safety, the accommodations may be modest.



Aim High



Be Inclusive



Work Together

Cost and Fundraising

The total cost of the expedition is **£4195**. This covers all travel, accommodation, food, activities, and insurance for the duration of the trip. We understand that this is a significant amount, so we encourage students to actively participate in **fundraising** efforts to help meet the cost. Below are some potential ideas for fundraising:

- **Sponsored walks, runs or challenges**
- **Car washes or bake sales**
- **Talent shows or community performances**
- **Crowdfunding platforms** (with parental consent)
- **Local charity events or auctions**

We will provide more guidance and support to help students achieve their fundraising goals and ensure everyone has the opportunity to contribute to this experience.

Important Details and Next Steps

To express interest in this trip, students **must attend the school** for the next academic year (2025-2026) to be eligible for participation. If a student decides to leave the school for a different 6th form or college, any payments made up until that point can be fully reimbursed.

Charlie from World Challenge will host a 20-minute **Zoom presentation on Monday 16 December at 6pm**. Please come along and ask any questions, or just listen in. Register [here](#) for a link to the presentation.

To apply, students must complete the following by **Friday 10 January 3pm**.

1. Signed up to World Challenge directly on the following [link](#)
2. Complete the Expression of Interest form via the link below, detailing why you would like to apply and a brief summary of fundraising ideas:
[World Challenge Cambodia 2026 - Expression of Interest](#)

We recommend planning and preparing the answers to the application form questions in advance. The first deposit of **£350** will be due by Friday 10 **January, 2025, paid directly to World Challenge** to confirm a place on the trip.

Cancellation Policy: There is a 14-day cooling-off period with World Challenge after paying the deposit in January. If a student changes their mind within this time, the deposit will be refunded. After this period, the following table will apply.



Period before initial departure date in which you notify us	Cancellation charge
More than 9 months	Initial Instalment amount*
More than 6 months	The greater of the Initial Instalment and 15% of the trip price
More than 3 months	30% of the trip price
More than 30 days	60% of the trip price
Less than 30 days	90% of the trip price

A **payment plan** will be available for the remainder of the cost of the trip, which will be spread across the following months.

Group Size and Application Process

To ensure the success of the expedition, we need a minimum of **14 students** to proceed with the trip. If we do not receive this number of applications, we will unfortunately not be able to go ahead with the trip. If we receive more than **20 applications**, places will be allocated at random, unless we have sufficient interest to run an additional team.

The start date for the expedition will be **26 July 2026**, and the trip will last 14 days.

Staff Leadership and Support

The trip will be led by two staff members from our school who are experienced in leading trips. They will be supported by **World Challenge representatives** who will assist with planning, preparation, and provide on-the-ground support during the expedition. Together, they will ensure that the students' safety and well-being are the top priority at all times.

About Cambodia

Cambodia is a beautiful and culturally rich country in Southeast Asia, known for its stunning temples, including the world-famous **Angkor Wat**, and its complex history. The country has made incredible strides in recent years, and students will have the chance to experience the resilience and warmth of the Cambodian people while learning about efforts to address environmental and social challenges.

Next Steps

If your child is interested in participating, please ensure that the application form and sign up with World Challenge is completed and submitted by **Friday 10 January, 3pm**. Please register and attend the zoom presentation on **Monday 16 December from 6-6:30pm**. We are excited about this opportunity for our students and look forward to an unforgettable experience.

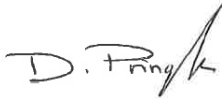
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.



Please note that representing the school on a trip, fixture or at an event is a privilege and we reserve the right to withdraw that privilege for students who are persistently late to school or lessons, do not follow our uniform or behaviour policies or bring the school into disrepute in any way.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Pringle
PE Teacher/Head of Year 8



Miss M Longdon
Maths Teacher/KS3 Maths Lead/DofE Manager

