

A photograph of two people in kayaking gear (yellow helmets, red life jackets, and black wetsuits) standing on a wooden dock over a lake. They are holding hands and raising their arms in celebration. The background shows a green valley with hills and a few buildings.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



Teesside High School
Education as it should be



WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, THE TOUGH START GROWING



At Teesside High School, we believe the opportunity to engage in adventurous activity in the outdoors is fundamental to developing our young people in every way imaginable.

Improving quality of life through better health, fitness and movement is the most basic of expectations from this type of activity, but it is proven to run so much deeper. Building confidence and trust in peers through activities which promote physical and mental challenge in a range of environments, these activities demand perseverance and determination, problem solving and decision making as well as independence and self-reliance, all of which builds resilience through a range of co-curricular, day-long and residential experiences.



Outdoor Education starts with our youngest pupils.

All Prep children from Nursery to Year 6 are given the chance to explore the world around them under the guidance of our qualified Forest School practitioner in our extensive grounds and woodland. They begin to take measured risks, develop their sense of responsibility and grow in confidence through regular Forest School sessions, and through enrichment opportunities such as our popular Bushcraft Club.

As they progress through the Prep School, our children take on new challenges which allow them to believe that, with support and determination, they can achieve new highs. Our Prep School residential offers the chance to take in everything Robinwood and its renowned Activity Centre has to offer. The children love putting their skills to the test as they experience stream walking, abseiling, caving and canoeing.

OUR WONDERFUL WOODLAND





Our Forest School plays host to a number of exciting holiday camps each year.

These programmes are designed to challenge our children to find qualities and skills they never believed they might have, all the while exploring leadership, teamwork and motivation. The one or two-day experiences offer sessions on whittling, drilling, lopping, maintaining the woodland, safely creating and managing fire and cookcraft.



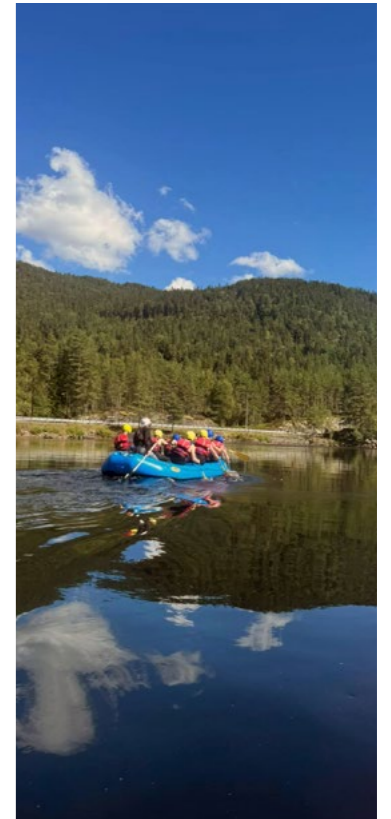


Our adventurous offer continues throughout the Senior School and Sixth Form.

Enrichment opportunities cover paddle boarding, water sports, ecology clubs, nature walks, bushcraft and survival. In Year 7, those new to the Senior School enjoy team building experiences across the year, including in our own Forest School and through a two night residential near Hexham. Here, students are faced with land-based challenges such as zip wire, Jacob's ladder and a leap of faith, all of which contributes to foundations of life-long friendships and camaraderie.

From Year 10 to 13, all students are further encouraged to be involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, which Teesside High School has led very successfully for over twenty years. Students complete volunteering, learn skills outside of the compulsory expedition and develop invaluable qualities as they embark upon their next step. The school offers Bronze, Silver and Gold awards, taking in challenging expedition sites such as the Cleveland Hills, Yorkshire Dales and Lake District.

This cohort is also given the opportunity to engage in a once-in-a-lifetime World Challenge expedition, which in 2024 took in the sights and culture of Norway. The experience involved hiking up mountains, rafting down rivers and camping wild in valleys, forests and fjords renowned for their outstanding natural beauty.





We recognise that academic achievement is significantly enhanced by the soft skills developed through Outdoor Education.

We also firmly believe in growing global citizens who are aware of the need for sustainability in the use of our natural resources. Spending time in stunning landscapes both in this region and further afield enriches this awareness, broadening horizons and influencing our young people way beyond the years they spend at school.





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