



BSES EXPEDITIONS
BRITISH SCHOOLS EXPLORING SOCIETY

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BSES EXPEDITIONS
BRITISH SCHOOLS EXPLORING SOCIETY

Outreach = Open opportunity

Overview of BSES

Overview of the Next Generation Programme

Outcomes

Challenges

Lessons

Opportunities & the future



MY
GENERATION



‘Integration with posh people’

‘Opportunity to discover their abilities and potential on the level playing field that is the expedition environment’

‘Whole constituency is vital’

Adventure with purpose



Base camp - Svalbard



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“The object of the Society is to advance the education of young people by providing inspirational, challenging, scientific expeditions to remote, wild environments and so promote the development of their confidence, teamwork, leadership, and spirit of adventure and exploration.”

THE EXPEDITION

‘Relentless pursuit of learning, development and the positive’

- Sound inspired leadership
- Skills coaching and facilitation
- Challenging activities
- Valid scientific purpose
- Adventure, managed risk
- Life and workplace skills
- Awareness / understanding & vocabulary
- D of E Gold Award
- CV value & differentiation

Challenge, exploration & adventure

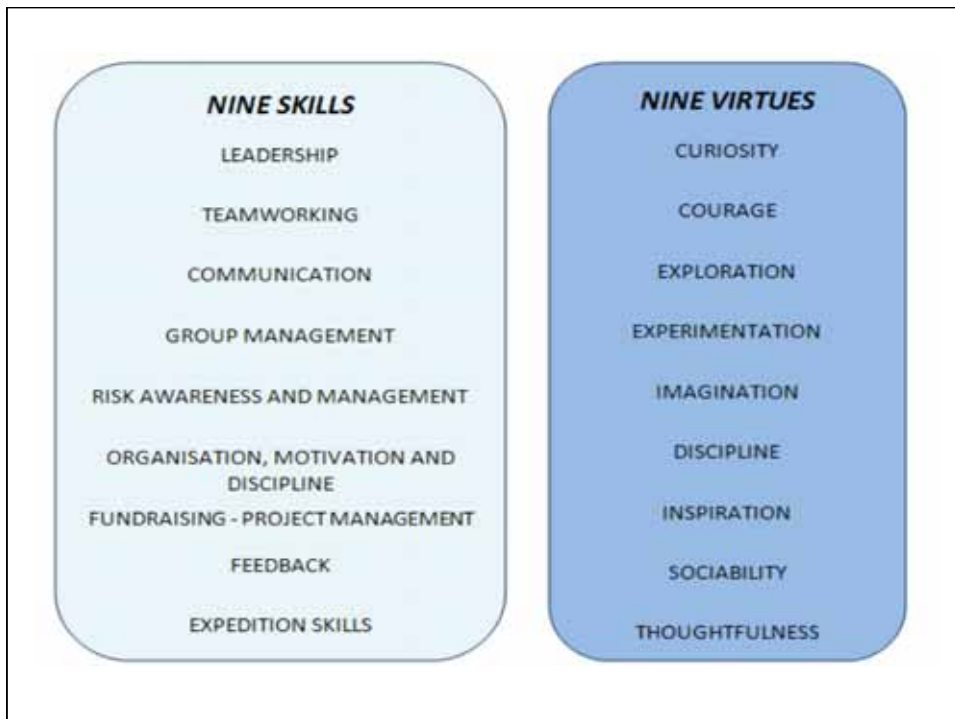




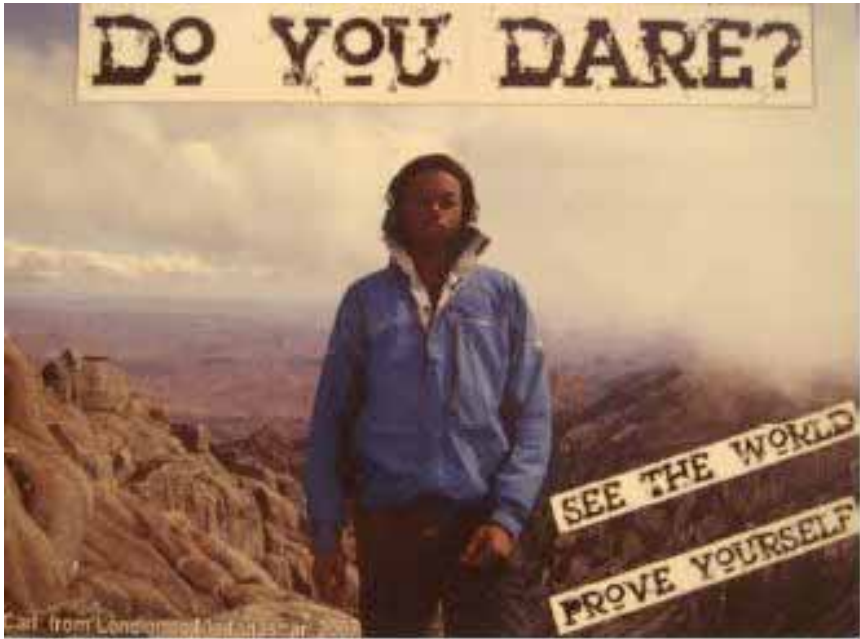
Personal Development

Communication
Independence
Interdependence
Capability and capacity
Confidence
Self-esteem

Challenges
Physical
Emotional
Social
Psychological



Next Generation





Programme structure

- Volunteers (selected)
- 3 Induction and build up / training weekends



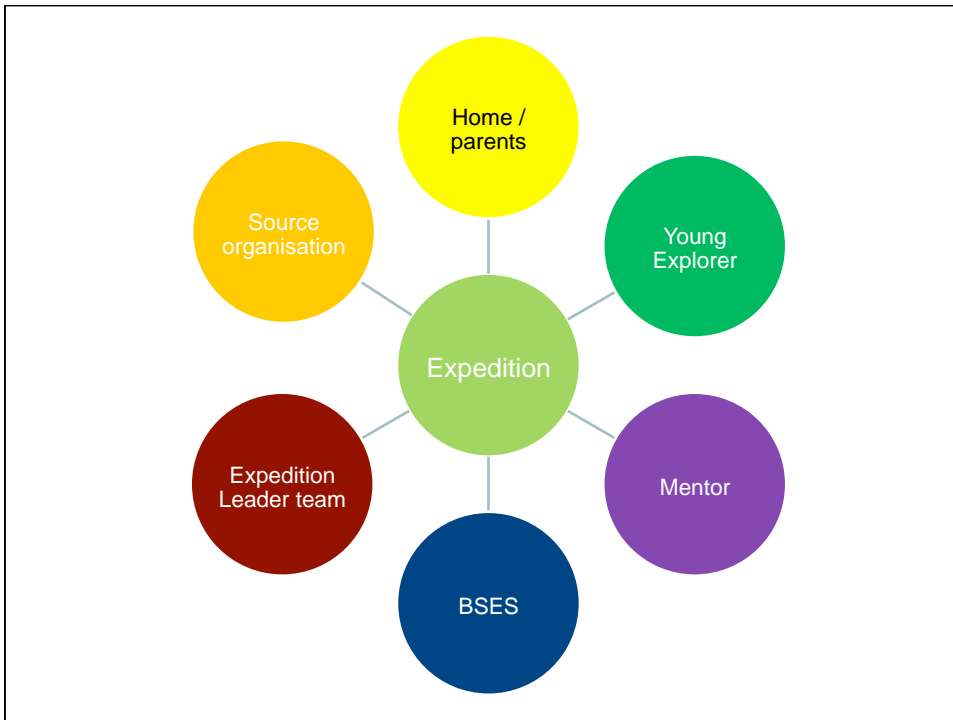
- A 'test' week
- Mentoring and fundraising (8 months)



- Meeting the others
- Expedition briefing
- The Expedition (5 weeks)
- Post expedition review –
Next Steps
- Return as mentors /
assistants



Our place in the personal development pathway





Outcomes

Personal

- Highly positive, visible difference
- Positive behaviours on return
- Longer term ? Requires monitoring and measurement

Community

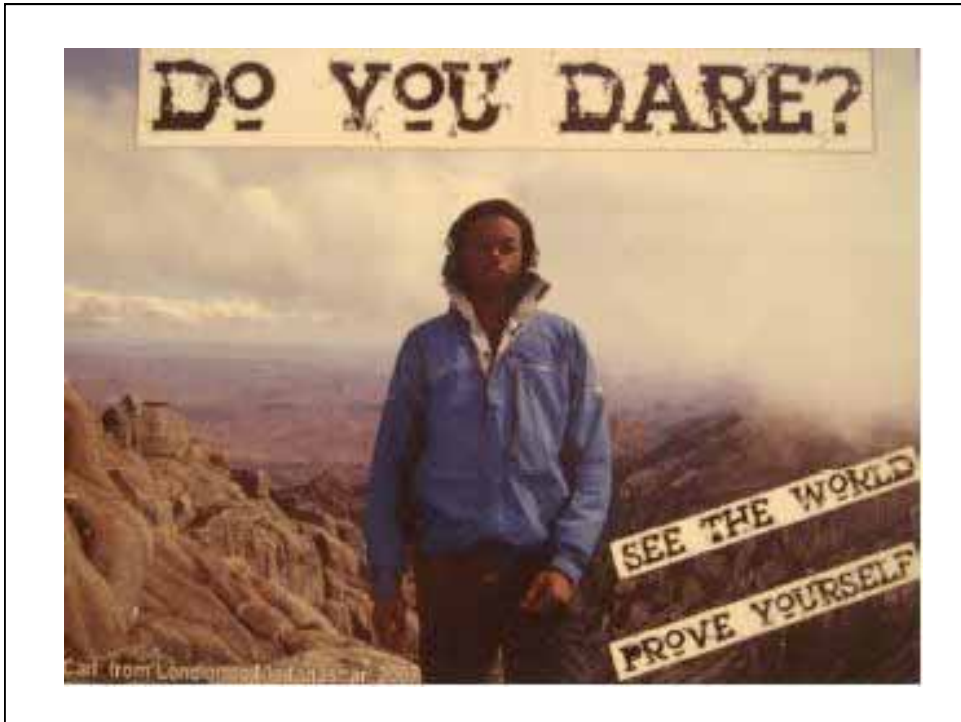
- Trickle down benefits – target the influencers
- Community interest

Organisations

- Future leader development
- Raised profile
- Fundraising
- Programme variety and appeal

MY
GENERATION





Essential ingredients

Personal

Aspirational activity – buy in
willingness to work as part of the team

Participants

Socio-economic mix / meeting of motivated minds
Nationwide or at least new people

Programme

Duration

Partner organisations

Mentoring /
Commitment / support / follow through

Field leadership

appropriate skills
facilitation and coaching

Challenges

Pre-departure

Reduce the perceived barriers to entry
Commitment to training and fundraising

Belief

in ability
in the opportunity
in the outcome

Finance

On expedition

Behavioural control issues
Engagement - esp with science projects and group work

Lessons Learned

- Not social workers
- We complement; not replace youth at risk programmes
- Selection criteria
- Safety and group management
- The relevance of scientific projects
- Not an easy win !

- A powerful fundraising story

Organisational challenges

- Selection process and criteria
- Integration of challenged youth with the mainstream participant
- Appropriate duration ?
- Accessibility and cost
- Measurement of outcomes
- Lasting value ?
- Leader skills training

The future

More

Accessibility

- shorter / cheaper / nearer

Workplace recognition of the benefits and skills

NINE VIRTUES

CURIOSITY
COURAGE
EXPLORATION
EXPERIMENTATION
IMAGINATION
DISCIPLINE
INSPIRATION
SOCIABILITY
THOUGHTFULNESS



78 degrees North, 50km from anyone else
Svalbard



Teamwork at -22°C,
Svalbard

'You never know how far you can push yourself until you try but it's always further than you think.'

Marianne Gelister, Extreme Arctic 2008, Young Explorer



www.bses.org.uk