

## 2026/2027 Week Without Walls Programme Launch

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

I am writing to share important information about the Week Without Walls (WWW) programme for the next academic year. The programme will take place during the week commencing Monday 9th November, with some expeditions departing and/or returning over the surrounding weekends, depending on individual itineraries and travel requirements.

As you know, the WWW programme is an integral part of our Secondary School curriculum. It is intentionally designed to extend learning beyond the traditional classroom and to provide students with authentic, real-world, transformative learning experiences. As such, the programme is a mandatory component of the school calendar. During this week, there are no scheduled formal lessons; instead, students engage in immersive, experiential learning opportunities that align with the school's educational philosophy and learning outcomes.

Guided by our commitment to holistic education, the WWW programme is underpinned by a clear set of learning goals. Through participation in WWW, students are supported to:

- Foster personal growth by developing self-reliance, resilience, adaptability, and problem-solving skills as they navigate new and unfamiliar environments;
- Build practical life skills through intentional opportunities for goal-setting, collaboration, and reflective practice;
- Cultivate collaboration and leadership by forming positive relationships, working effectively in teams, and developing communication and leadership skills;
- Enhance global awareness by engaging with diverse cultures, perspectives and traditions, and developing empathy and intercultural understanding;
- Nurture creativity and curiosity by encouraging students to think critically and creatively as they explore new settings, challenges and experiences;
- Promote student wellbeing through a balanced programme that incorporates physical activity, mindfulness and outdoor experiences to support both mental and physical health.



DBIS  
**EDVENTURES**  
Explore, Learn,  
Discover

### **WWW Programme Design**

In Years 7 to 9, students embark on whole-year expeditions, forging strong friendships while developing essential skills in leadership, teamwork, resilience and discovery.

As they progress to Years 10 to 13, students have the exciting opportunity to choose their own experiences, tailoring their journeys to their interests and aspirations.

Each trip is aligned with one or more WWW strand:

- Culture and Creativity
- Adventure and Exploration
- Service and Sustainability

Over their time at DBIS, Year 10–13 students are encouraged to engage with experiences across all strands, ensuring a well-rounded, transformative journey that shapes them into confident, compassionate and globally minded individuals.



### **2026/27 WWW Programme Summary**

In 2026/27, we are building on the success of the 2025/26 WWW programme, as well as the positive feedback and reflections gathered from both students and staff. These insights have informed further refinement of the programme design to ensure that the learning opportunities offered to students remain varied, purposeful and genuinely transformative.

#### **Year 7–9 Programme Structure**

For students in Years 7–9, expedition itineraries and providers will remain the same as in the previous academic year. This decision has been made based on the consistently high quality of these programmes, their strong alignment with the DBIS community and the depth of experience and expertise demonstrated by our established providers.

#### **Whole-Year Expedition Locations**

- Year 7: Yangshuo, China
- Year 8: Kanchanaburi, Thailand
- Year 9: Vietnam (Hanoi, Ha Long Bay and North West Vietnam)

### Year 10–13 International Expeditions

For students in Years 10–13, significant work has gone into redesigning and renewing the WWW programme. This has included establishing partnerships with highly regarded providers used by top international schools across the region, specialising in educational programmes within specific geographical contexts and areas of expertise.

You will hopefully notice a reduction in overall itinerary and programme costs compared to previous years. This has been an intentional outcome of working with providers who manage programmes end to end, allowing for greater efficiency while maintaining high standards of safety, educational value and student support.

#### International Expedition Locations (Years 10–13)

- South Korea
- India
- Taiwan
- Bali, Indonesia
- Cambodia

### Year 10–13 Hong Kong-Based Expeditions

In addition to international travel options, a range of Hong Kong-based expeditions will be offered to students in Years 10–13. These programmes provide rich, locally grounded experiences while supporting student wellbeing, skill development and community engagement.

- **Food for the Soul** - A hands-on culinary experience focused on baking and cooking, designed to nurture creativity, confidence and wellbeing.
- **Outdoor Explorer** - Explore Hong Kong's natural landscapes through hiking and mountain biking, building resilience and a love of the outdoors.
- **Active Advantage** - Unlock your potential by engaging in a diverse range of sports and fitness experiences designed to develop strength, skill and healthy habits.
- **Project Compassion** - A service-learning-focused expedition supporting local community initiatives and social impact projects, enabling students to make a meaningful contribution close to home.

### Years 10–13 Future Programme Design

While some itineraries and locations offered to students in Years 10–13 may be repeated beyond the next academic year, our ongoing intention is to continually refine and strengthen programmes and to build long-term, sustainable relationships with service and education partners in each location. At the same time, the relatively small student population at DBIS means that new programmes will continue to be introduced each year. This approach ensures a breadth of opportunities for students, avoids repetition across cohorts, and allows the programme to remain responsive, innovative and relevant.

With this in mind, we encourage families and students to consider choices carefully, recognising that specific itineraries may not be offered again in future years.

### **Where to Learn More About the 2026/27 WWW Programme**

Parents are encouraged to explore [DBIS Edventures](#), our new experiential learning website, which showcases the breadth and depth of learning opportunities available to students at DBIS.

The Week Without Walls (WWW) page provides a comprehensive overview of this year's programme and is the best place to begin learning about the exciting and transformative learning experiences on offer.

Through the website, families can review each expedition in detail, including itineraries, key dates, locations, and programme costs.

In addition, the following resources are available to support your knowledge, understanding and decision-making:

- [Presentation slides](#) outlining the itineraries for each of the **Year 7–9 expeditions**
- [Presentation slides](#) outlining the itineraries for each of the **Year 10–13 international expedition options**
- [Presentation slides](#) outlining the itineraries for each of the **Year 10–13 Hong Kong-based expedition/experience options**

We have also recorded parent information presentations for both the Year 7–9 and Year 10–13 programmes. These recordings provide important context, outline expectations and explain the educational intent behind each expedition. Families are strongly encouraged to view the relevant presentation(s) to gain a clear understanding of what is on offer.

- [Year 7-9 Presentation Recording](#) and [Year 7-9 Parent Presentation Slides](#)
- [Year 10-13 Presentation Recording](#) and [Year 10-13 Parent Presentation Slides](#)

Finally, a summary [Comparison Spreadsheet](#) has been developed to support community understanding and planning. This document highlights key information for each expedition in one place and serves as a quick reference guide, including:

- Itinerary overviews
- Key dates
- Indicative flight information
- Deposit and final payment amounts

Together, these resources are designed to ensure families are well informed and confident when engaging with the WWW programme.

### **Choosing the Right Expedition: Important Considerations for Families**

Parents are asked to review expedition itineraries carefully to ensure that the selected programme is appropriate for their child's interests, experience and readiness. Each expedition has specific requirements, and it is important that families take note of these when making choices.

For example, the Bali and India expeditions require students to be confident swimmers, due to planned water-based activities. Some expeditions involve sustained physical

activity, remote environments, or outdoor living conditions, while others place greater emphasis on service learning, cultural engagement or intercultural understanding

In addition, parents are responsible for ensuring that their child meets all passport and visa requirements for their chosen destination. Visa eligibility varies depending on passport nationality; for example, Chinese passport holders require a visa to enter India, and processing times can vary. For destinations such as China and Taiwan, visa and entry requirements vary significantly by passport nationality. Families should check entry requirements carefully and early to avoid complications later in the process.

Careful consideration at this stage will help ensure that students are placed in expeditions where they can participate safely and confidently and fully benefit from the experience.

If parents have any specific questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the Outdoor Education Coordinator, Mr Drew Skellern.

### **Year 7–9 Whole Year Expeditions Sign-Up Process**

All students in Years 7–9 take part in a whole-year WWW experience, designed to ensure equity of access and a shared cohort experience.

#### Step 1: Indicate Participation

- Parents/guardians will be asked to opt in or opt out of the Year 7–9 WWW experience by the specified date.
- This response will be submitted via SchoolsBuddy.

#### Step 2: Confirmation and Deposit Payment

- Once participation is confirmed, families will be prompted to pay the required deposit by the stated due date.
- The deposit secures your child's place and enables the school to confirm bookings and staffing.
- Deposits are non-refundable once participation has been confirmed.

#### Important Notes

- If no response is received by the specified date, the school will assume that the student will not be attending.
- Once participation is confirmed, deposits are non-refundable, in line with the Week Without Walls Payments and Refunds Policy.
- Any consideration of refunds will be at the sole discretion of the DBIS Business Manager.

## Y7-9 Step-by-Step Process for Confirming Expedition Attendance on SchoolsBuddy

### 1. Log in to SchoolsBuddy:

- Follow the invitation link shared via email alerting you to visit SchoolsBuddy concerning the WWW expedition.
- OR Directly open your web browser and go to the SchoolsBuddy parent portal by clicking [here](#)
- Enter your credentials
- Click Sign In

Dear [REDACTED]

Availability/consent has been requested for you/your child:

EVENT/OPPONENT: **WWW 26/27 Y7 Yangshuo, China**

DATE/TIME: **Sunday, November 8, 2026 at 9:00 AM**

LOCATION: **Yangshuo, China**

MEET: DBIS School Gate at 12:00 AM

Drew Skellern has added the following vital and additional information:

Destination(s)	Yang Shuo, China
Travel Dates (not including flights)	Sunday 8th – Friday 13th November 2026 (subject to change)
Duration	6 Days & 5 Nights
Focus	Outdoor Exploration, Adventure and Culture
Cost	\$9 700 HKD Approximately
Deposit Information	\$5 000 HKD Due Monday 13th of April
Final Payment	<b>TBC</b> Due Monday 27th of July
Provider	<a href="#">The Hutong</a>

DISCOVERY BAY  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
愉景灣國際學校

[Create an account](#)

PARENT PORTAL

Please enter your login credentials:

Username / Email

Password

Remember me

[Sign In](#)

[Forgotten your details?](#)

## 2. Access/Click on The Action Required Option on the Homepage

Select 'Action Required' to view/review the relevant whole-year WWW expedition options.

My Wallet  
\$0.00

Outstanding fees  
\$-10.00

Voucher balance  
\$0.00

There are no upcoming events today.

**Action Required** 1  
You have Invites and/or Availability Requests awaiting a response.

Invites and Availability Requests Filter My Diary

You have Invites and/or Availability Requests awaiting a response.

Sunday, 06 Nov  
09:00 – 17:00  
WWW 26/27 Y7 Yangshuo, China  
WWW 26/27 Y7 Yangshuo, China  
45 day 19 h 9 min left  
Awaiting response

## 3. Review the Relevant Key Information for Years 7–9

Review the WWW expedition information, ensuring it is supported by the additional details provided via this letter and linked presentations and website.

- Provide your consent meaning that your child will attend the expedition OR
- Decline the WWW expedition, providing a brief explanation.

### WWW 26/27 Y7 Yangshuo, China – Action Required

JD Doe, Jane (Test) - Availability Requested

Deadline: 23 Mar 2026 12:33

I confirm that I have read and understood the information provided regarding my child's participation in the Y7 2026/27 Week Without Walls program.

Fee: \$9700

Consent Notes

Consent

Decline

### **Year 10–13 Expedition Selection Sign-Up Process**

Students in Years 10–13 participate in choice-based expeditions that offer a range of local and international experiences.

#### **Step 1: Select Expedition Preferences**

- Students will be invited to nominate three (3) expedition preferences via SchoolsBuddy by the specified date.
- Preferences should be selected carefully, as expedition viability depends on confirmed numbers.

#### **Step 2: Expedition Allocation**

- Students will be allocated one expedition based on preferences, capacity, staffing and safety considerations.
- Allocation decisions are final.
- DBIS will make every effort to accommodate students' first- and second-choice options; however, in some cases, this may not be possible.

#### **Step 3: Deposit Payment**

- Following allocation, families must pay the required deposit by the stated due date to confirm the student's place.
- Deposits are non-refundable once participation has been confirmed.

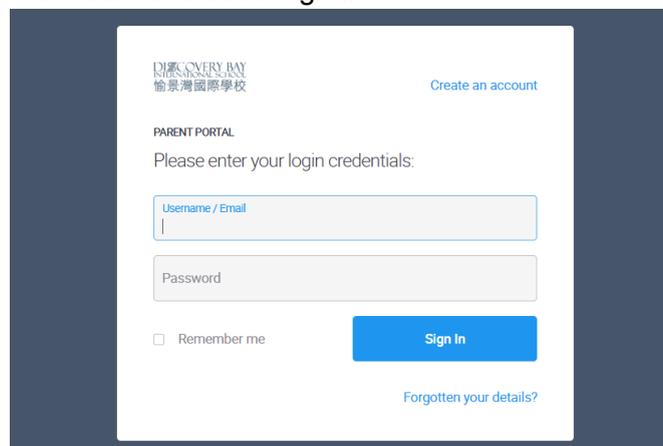
#### **Important Notes**

- Submitting expedition preferences is considered a commitment to participate in the allocated expedition.
- Deposits are non-refundable once allocation has occurred.
- Withdrawal or non-payment may impact the viability of the expedition and will result in follow-up for outstanding payments.

### **Year 10–13 Step-by-Step Process for Submitting Expedition Preferences on SchoolsBuddy**

#### **1. Log in to SchoolsBuddy:**

- Open your web browser and go to the SchoolsBuddy parent portal by clicking [here](#)
- Enter your credentials and Click Sign In



The screenshot shows the login page for the Discovery Bay International School Parent Portal. At the top left, the school's name is displayed in English and Chinese. To the right is a link for 'Create an account'. Below this, the text 'PARENT PORTAL' and 'Please enter your login credentials:' is shown. There are two input fields: 'Username / Email' and 'Password'. Below the password field is a checkbox for 'Remember me' and a blue 'Sign In' button. At the bottom right, there is a link for 'Forgotten your details?'.

## 2. Access Available Sign-Ups on the Homepage

Select 'Available Sign-Ups' to view the WWW expedition options.

The dashboard displays the date as FEB Monday 02. It includes sections for 'My Wallet' with a balance of \$0.00, 'Outstanding fees' of \$-10.00, and 'Voucher balance' of \$0.00. Below these are icons for 'My Diary', 'Fees', 'Sports', and 'Activities & Clubs'. The 'Available signups' section, highlighted with a red border, lists two options: 'WWW 2026/27 Y10-13 International and Local Expeditions' (sign up closes 08/03/2026) and 'WWW 2026/27 Y7-9 Whole Grade Expeditions' (sign up closes 09/03/2026). A 'View All (2)' link is present in the top right of this section.

## 3. Review the Available WWW Expedition Options

Review the WWW expedition options.

- Select your child's expedition preference(s).
- In Years 10–13, students may select up to three (3) expedition preferences.

The 'Activities' page shows a progress bar with four steps: 1. How signup works, 2. Make choices, 3. Submit to school, and 4. Await allocation. Below the progress bar are instructions for each step. A search bar for group names is present, with a 'Clear All' button. Under the '1 Available' filter, the 'Year 8 WWW Expedition - Kanchanaburi, Thailand' is listed, organized by J. Owen. A table below shows the selection options for a user named 'Doe, Jane (Test)'. The table has two columns: '1' (with a checked checkbox) and 'N/A' (with an unchecked checkbox). A red box highlights these two columns.

Active Advantage HK Experience

DS D. Skellem  
Organiser

Active Advantage HK Experience

JD Doe, John (Test)



1



2



3



N/A

Bali Expedition

DS D. Skellem  
Organiser

Bali Expedition

JD Doe, John (Test)



1



2



3



N/A

Cambodia Expedition

RB R. Boddington  
Organiser

Cambodia Expedition

JD Doe, John (Test)



1



2



3



N/A

#### 4. Submit Preferences and Complete Consent Form

- Submit your WWW expedition preferences.
- Complete the WWW consent form.

Review

Edit Choices

Submit to school

WARNING: Please ensure you have made ALL of your selections for ALL days, you will not be able to add any more selections after you have submitted these choices.

JD Doe, Jane (Test)

Prof 1  
Year 8 WWW Expedition - Kanchanaburi,  
Thailand

Per session 09:00 - 17:00

Edit Choices

Submit to school

### Terms & Conditions



- If no response is received by the specified date, the school will assume that the student will not be attending the WWW Program.
- Once participation is confirmed, deposits are non-refundable, in line with the Week Without Walls Payments and Refunds Policy.
- Any consideration of refunds will be at the sole discretion of the DBIS Business Manager.

### WWW Consent

### 5. Confirmation of Join Requests

Your join request will be sent to the school, and you will receive a confirmation email once it has been received.



**Discovery Bay International School** <noreply@schools buddy.com>  
to me ▾

12:48 (14 minutes ago)

Dear [REDACTED]

This is to confirm that your selections for WWW 2026/27 Y7-9 Whole Grade Expeditions have been sent to the school.

Many thanks

Discovery Bay International School and the SchoolsBuddy team.

[Go to the Discovery Bay International School SchoolsBuddy Portal](#)

### Payment Information

Once your child's WWW expedition is confirmed, all deposits and final payments for WWW must be made by the specified payment deadlines. Accepted payment methods:

- Direct bank transfer (preferred)
- Cheque

If paying by bank transfer, please email a copy of the bank slip or transaction reference, clearly including your child's full name and year group, to [accounts@dbis.edu.hk](mailto:accounts@dbis.edu.hk) to assist with payment reconciliation.

Bank Details:

- Account Name: Discovery Bay International School Limited
- Bank: The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd
- Bank Address: 1 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong
- Bank Code: 004
- Account Number: 111-459624-001
- SWIFT Code: HSBCHKHCHK

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in ensuring payments are made on time, which allows the school to confirm bookings and deliver a safe and high-quality WWW experience for all students.

### SchoolsBuddy and Payment Processing

Please note that SchoolsBuddy will not be updated to reflect payment status for the WWW programme as the platform's payment processing function is not being used at this time. As a result, SchoolsBuddy may continue to display an outstanding balance, even after payment has been made.

To confirm payments, parents should email the accounts team directly ([accounts@dbis.edu.hk](mailto:accounts@dbis.edu.hk)), quoting the student's name and expedition. The accounts team will be able to verify receipt of payment and assist with any payment-related queries.

## **Key Dates**

The following table outlines the key dates and milestones for the WWW programme. Please note that some dates involve important actions or deadlines for families.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Key Milestone</b>
Monday 23 February 2026	Information about the 2026/27 WWW programme shared with parents
Monday 2 March 2026	SchoolsBuddy opens for expedition preference selection
Monday 9 March 2026	Indication of attendance due for Years 7–9 and expedition preferences due for Years 10–13
Monday 16 March 2026	Expedition allocations confirmed for Years 10–13
Monday 23 March 2026	Parent letter issued for each expedition
Monday 13 April 2026	Deposit due and submission of consent, medical and security documentation
Monday 27 July 2026	Final payment due

As a school, we appreciate the time and care families invest in engaging with the WWW programme. These experiences are a valued and integral part of our Secondary School curriculum, providing students with meaningful opportunities to grow in confidence, independence and global awareness.

We look forward to working in partnership with families to ensure each student's participation is safe, enriching and well supported.

Thank you for your continued support of the WWW programme.

Drew Skellern  
Outdoor Education Coordinator  
[dskellern@dbis.edu.hk](mailto:dskellern@dbis.edu.hk)