

## **Frequently asked questions from learners**

### **1. Why is it so long?**

Compared to other outdoor experiences, the purpose of this is different. It's a personal challenge and a life experience, not just a change of scenery. Much of what you learn and how it might affect you would not take place in a shorter time.

### **2. Is it compulsory?**

It would probably be difficult to make the first Odyssey compulsory. Some people might be sceptical and afraid. In time it could become the highlight of an Oakhill student's career and your chance of doing it will have passed. So you will need to consider that.

### **3. Do I have to be fit?**

It will be easier and more enjoyable if you are in shape. But your group could always carry you!

### **4. Who is in charge?**

Each day a different student will assume the responsibility of the group. So you will all lead for a day. After each person has been a leader, you may decide as a group what to do in the last couple of days.

### **5. Why do the students make all the decisions?**

You resent being told what to do, you can't wait to be independent; here's your chance.

### **6. What do the adults/teachers do?**

Enjoy your company, the environment, your cooking and your navigation. They will ensure that accidents and emergencies are avoided or deal with them if they arise.

### **7. What will we eat?**

You will receive boxes of ingredients and some fresh products every three days or so. How you divide these among your group and what you choose to eat with what, and when you eat, is up to you.

### **8. Is it Safe?**

An endeavour of this nature and size is not 100% safe but ensuring that every feasible precaution is put in place and experts employed where they are required, such as canoeing down a river, will be the College's priority.

### **9. What equipment/gear do I need?**

Fully detailed kit lists will be provided and discussed. The most important items needed for the expedition will be walking boots, a rucksack, a sleeping bag, a waterproof jacket and your own mountain bike.