



PETERBOROUGH KEYS  
ACADEMIES TRUST

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19<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

### PKAT 'YOUNG EXPLORERS CAMP' FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 5

As a Trust we aim to provide all our children with a range of exciting and worthwhile experiences and opportunities from the age of 4 all the way through to 18. Over the past few years, Peterborough Keys Academies Trust has developed a Young Explorers Programme for all children in Year 5 as part of our 'Opportunity' and 'Leadership' key values.

We are delighted to announce that a Young Explorers camping experience has been organised for each Year 5 class in every PKAT primary school (Longthorpe, Nova, Ravensthorpe and Thorpe schools) in **June 2024**. The camp will take place at the Rutland Outdoor Education Centre (about 30 minutes away from Peterborough, [www.roec.co.uk/education](http://www.roec.co.uk/education)). It's a stunning location which features large orchards and fields with a secure camping area for our children (with toilet/ washing facilities); a forest school area with pond dipping, woodlands for orienteering, a working farm (children will have the opportunity to work with and care for some of the animals) and lots of space to play in. Children will be camping in tents and also enjoy toasting marshmallows, songs and stories around the campfire in the evening. Children would take a packed lunch to eat on day one, help make their own BBQ meal using produce from the farm in the evening, enjoy a breakfast together and then be back to school by lunchtime on day two. This trip is aimed to help develop the children's independence and their team work skills as a class. Each school will enjoy a one night stay on consecutive nights the week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> June.

This year's trip has been designed to complement the skills learnt by many of the children who went on the Year 3 farm camp trip whilst helping them to build on those with new skills and experiences. There are a range of new activities this year that include butter making, larger den building area, cooking, bushcraft sessions and have the opportunity to explore even more of the extensive farm site.

A one night stay at the Centre including food, accommodation, staff and transport would normally cost in the region of £70 per child. However, to encourage as many Year 5 children as possible to make the most of this opportunity, **PKAT is able to subsidise the cost by 50%**. The cost to parents would be £35 which can be paid in instalments. To secure your child's place on the trip, **£10 deposit** will be required by 31st January via your ParentPay account with the **£25 balance** to be paid by Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May. If the cost is a concern, please contact your child's school to discuss options.

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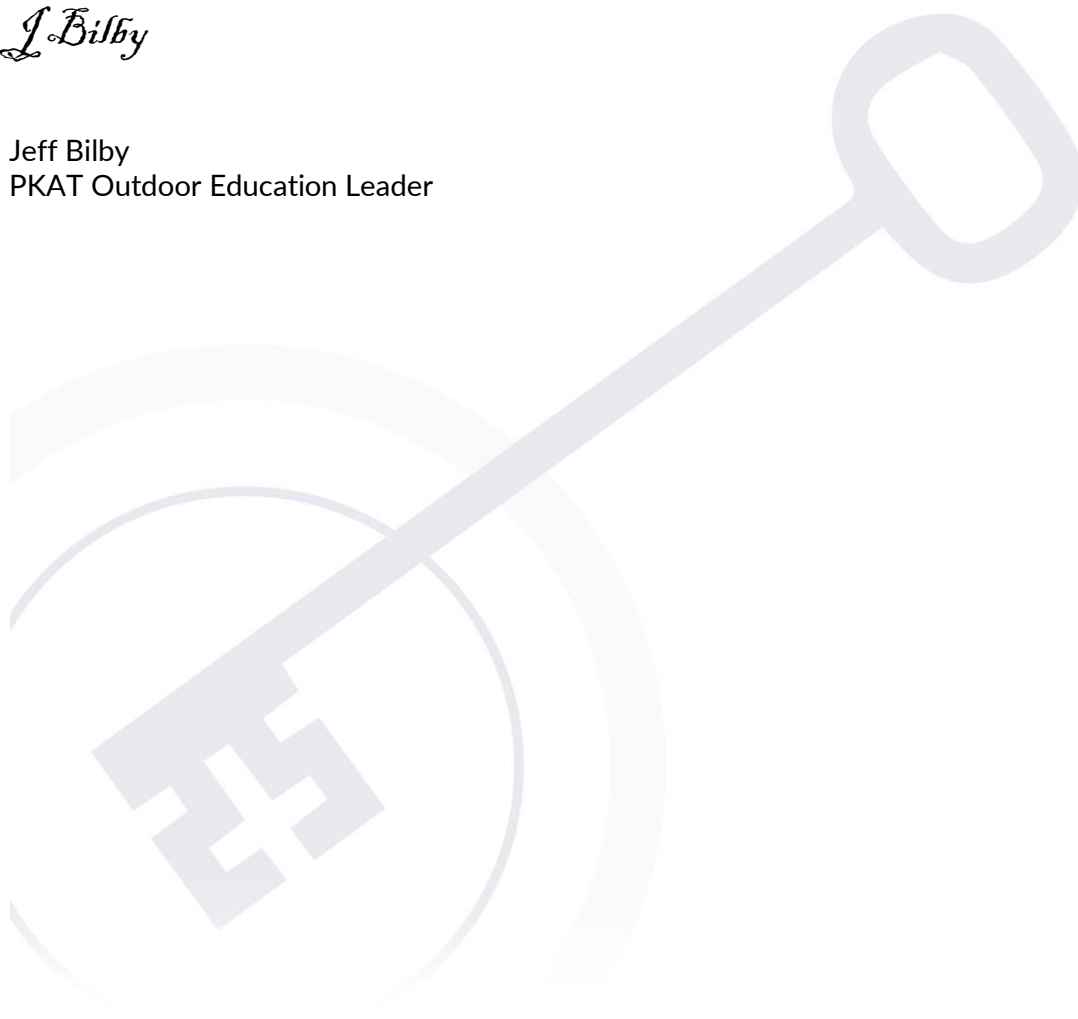
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I have already held some sessions visiting each primary school this term to work with all Year 5 classes and introduce them to some of the skills and knowledge that they will be using at the camp in the summer. I will be running similar sessions next year, including how to build a tent! I have created a Powerpoint presentation about the camp which features photos and further information and each school will upload this to their school website. Please direct any questions about the trip to your child's class teacher.

Best wishes

*Jeff Bilby*

Jeff Bilby  
PKAT Outdoor Education Leader



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