



the
leap

KENYA SCHOOL EXPEDITION

MORE THAN A SCHOOL TRIP

REAL-WORLD WORK EXPERIENCE

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING DIPLOMA - 16 UCAS POINTS



Strong grades are only part of the story.

Critical thinking. Initiative. Responsibility. Teamwork. Engagement.

These are the critical skills competitive universities and future employers look for – evidence that helps young people stand out beyond the classroom.

The Leap transforms a school expedition into project-led international work experience: creating an environment where students build these skills through real responsibility, not simulated exercises.

In Kenya, students contribute to marine conservation and community projects, then translate that experience into an internationally recognised Level 3 Diploma in International Volunteering worth 16 UCAS points.

They return with more than memories. They return with recognised achievement, real-world skills, and compelling evidence for applications and interviews.

PROJECT-LED INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Work experience with real purpose

The Leap designs and delivers project-led school expeditions that give students something real to do and a clear understanding of why it matters.

In Kenya, we bring student teams to work alongside Oceans Alive, a pioneering local NGO connecting marine conservation with community development.

Leap teams contribute to genuine, ongoing projects—from coral restoration and marine education to clean water, permaculture and fuel-efficient stoves. Guided by local specialists, students discover how challenges are identified, solutions developed and sustainable change created.

The Leap brings every element together: meaningful project work, cultural immersion, personal challenge and adventure—all carefully designed around the school and its students. Real projects. Trusted partnerships. A complete Leap experience.

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CHALLENGE • CULTURE • CONTRIBUTION

The experience behind the achievement.

The Diploma makes the achievement visible. The Leap experience is what creates it.

Challenge

Step beyond the familiar, adapt to a new environment and discover what you are capable of.

Culture

Go beyond the tourist trail and spend time with the people shaping the destination.

Contribution

Take responsibility within purposeful projects and contribute to something bigger than yourself.

The result?

Greater confidence, independence and perspective with real evidence to support the future.

16 UCAS POINTS

Diploma in International Volunteering

The **Level 3 Diploma in International Volunteering** transforms the Kenya experience into recognised academic achievement.

Accredited by NOCN and worth **16 UCAS points**, the Diploma guides students through three stages:

Prepare

Understand the placement, the organisation and what it means to contribute responsibly.

Participate

Take an active role in the projects, recording challenges, decisions and personal development.

Reflect

Evaluate the experience and translate it into evidence of skills, learning and impact.

Students do not simply say that they volunteered overseas. They can explain what they did, what they learned and why it matters. The result is powerful material for university applications, personal statements, interviews and future careers.

A 10- DAY ITINERARY

Indian ocean to the african Bush



Days 1-2

ARRIVE AND UNDERSTAND

Settle into Bahari Hai, meet the Oceans Alive team and explore the Kuruwitu lagoon. Understand the challenges facing the reef and the community, and how the projects respond.

Days 3-5

CONTRIBUTE AND CONNECT

Begin coral restoration and community projects, alongside the local market challenge, school exchange, football and traditional dhow sailing.

Days 6-7

DEEPEN AND REVIEW

Continue the marine and community work through permaculture, clean-water and final project activities. Review what has been achieved and how Oceans Alive measures impact.

Days 8-10

SAFARI AND RETURN

Leave the Indian Ocean behind for safari across the Greater Tsavo landscape, before returning home after a final game drive.

SCHOOL PROOF

Trusted by leading schools. Repeated for a reason.

Since 2002, The Leap has created purposeful overseas expeditions for thousands of young people.

Schools return because there is nothing else quite like it: project-led international work experience, meaningful adventure and a recognised Level 3 Diploma worth 16 UCAS points, all within one fully supported programme.

The Diploma gives the experience a clear academic framework, allowing it to become part of the school's wider curriculum: not simply a one-off trip, but an opportunity offered to a new cohort year after year.

“Having led numerous expeditions across the world, I never expected a school trip to be so magical. Our personalised itinerary had everything we asked for and more. We are now organising our forth trip to Kenya.

GENEVIEVE FORD, DEPUTY HEAD, DOWNE HOUSE SCHOOL

DOWNE HOUSE • DAUNTSEY'S • BRYANSTON • LORETTO SCHOOL

A photograph showing a group of young women and children in a rural setting. In the foreground, a woman with a braid, wearing a grey Adidas t-shirt, stands with her back to the camera. To her left, a woman in a bright green tank top smiles. In front of them, a young girl in a red patterned dress is seen from behind. To the right, several other children are looking towards the women. The background features a thatched-roof building and lush greenery.

“Our daughter has had the most amazing time in Kenya, The Leap group have been fantastic with the organisation throughout, I always felt we were in good hands. The breadth of volunteering and involvement has been wonderful and I know this will have changed her life forever. Thank you.

ABOUT THE LEAP

Experience you can trust. Support that stays personal.

Founded in 2002 by Milly and Guy Whitehead, The Leap is an independent UK travel company specialising in purposeful overseas experiences for young people.

For more than two decades, they have supported thousands of students and built long-standing partnerships with locally led organisations around the world.

Schools work directly with our experienced team, from the first conversation to the journey home. Every expedition is designed around the school's objectives, with the planning, safeguarding and in-country delivery carefully managed.

Approved and recognised

- DofE Approved Activity Provider
- Year Out Group member
- Accredited Gap Year Association Member
- Programmes designed in line with BS 8848

What teachers can expect

- A bespoke programme shaped around your educational goals
- One personal point of contact throughout
- Support for teachers, students and parents
- Medical and additional-support reviews
- Detailed risk assessments and safeguarding procedures
- Experienced local leaders and project specialists
- Emergency planning and 24/7 UK support





“It challenged us in ways we hadn’t anticipated, opening our eyes to different ways of living and requiring us to be resilient, organised, and adaptable.”

– Lottie, student Dauntsey’s School



Arrange a video call with Milly to discuss how
we can help your students thrive in a
competitive world.

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