1. What are the programme details in the camp?

CAMP SYNOPSIS
The Primary 4 Outdoor Adventure Camp provides an opportunity for pupils to experience a rustic outdoor experience out of their comfort zones and allows them to explore and venture within a safe and nurturing environment. The camp also aims to foster a sense of teamwork and camaraderie among the pupils as they encourage one another to pursue excellence.

Objectives:
The objectives of the camp are to:
1. build resilience through rugged outdoor living;
2. embrace diversity through social mixing opportunities
3. forge camaraderie and social bonds through challenging common experiences
4. develop positive teacher-student relationships through out-of-classroom interactions

Camp Programme:
Each student will experience the following components of a cohort camp jointly organised by teachers from PHPPS and the MOE Outdoor Adventure Learning Unit (Dairy Farm):

- Journey: Students will be able to work in their groups to overcome challenges in a half-day journey.
- High Elements: Students will be given a chance to overcome individual challenges in high elements
- Low Elements: Students will be able to work in groups to overcome team challenges
- Place Based Activities: Students will be able to experience (a) sense of place engaging activities unique to a specific location within and around the campsite
- Outdoor-living skills: Students will be able to learn specific outdoor skills such as Navigation, shelter building etc.

Start and End Time:
Day 1: 7.00 a.m. Report to school
Day 3: 2.45 p.m. Arrival in school for dismissal (Pupils taking school buses can take the 3pm school bus home. Parents and guardians are advised to wait outside the General Office holding area before collecting their child/ward.)

Accommodation:
Students will be sleeping in well-ventilated (wall fans) and netted (from insects) dormitories in MOE Dairy Farm Outdoor Adventure Learning Centre.

2. What are the safety arrangements?

Risk Assessment has been conducted by both the school and MOE officers prior to the camp.

All staff at the DFOALC are wilderness first aid trained. There will be teacher first aiders on site and evacuation plan has been put in place.

All group activities and movements are monitored by short radio communications and GPS regularly.

The teacher-pupil ratio will be kept at 1:20 for both day and night activities. If the number of Outdoor Adventure Educators are included, the adult-pupil ratio is less than 1:10 for daytime and overnight. There will be security guards patrolling the campsite during the night.
There will be certified MOE high element specialists, in addition to the current group facilitators (1 Facilitator: 20 Participants Ratio) during the high elements activities.

3. If my child is very afraid of heights, must he/she go through those high elements?

The school adopts a “Challenge by Choice” attitude for every participant. A pupil will be encouraged but has a choice not to participate in an activity that he/she may be uncomfortable with.

4. Are the instructors experienced in running an outdoor adventure camp?

The PHPPS cohort camp is part of the pilot program by MOE HQ Officers. The Outdoor Adventure Educators are current educators from MOE HQ who are highly trained in outdoor pedagogy. They have at least a few years of experience running similar programmes.

Pupils will be briefed, prior to the camp (on Monday, Week 6), on the necessary details (objectives, expectations, packing list, etc...).

5. What is the wet weather programme?

Indoor activities will be conducted under shelters during inclement weather.

6. What is the school’s contingency plan in the event of haze?

The school and the MOE Officers have come up with the haze contingency plan based on MOE guidelines 2016 as below:

PM2.5 Reading of 56 – 150 at any given hour: All outdoor activities suspended. Teachers will monitor PM 2.5 reading and 24hour haze reading and make decision as at below.

PSI 0 – 100 (24 hour reading) : Activities continue as per normal

Above PSI 101 (24 hour reading) : All outdoor activities suspended. Evacuate campsite and return to school.

In the event of an evacuation, parents will be informed through the mass SMS to pick their children up from school.

7. Are parents allowed to visit the campsite?

No. For safety reasons and to prevent the disruption of the camp programme, parents are discouraged from visiting the campsite at all times. A child will tend to lose focus and may request to go home if he/she sees his/her parents. Resilience is one of the values we would like to instil in our pupils, so we require parents to refrain from coming to the campsite except for emergency cases.

In case of an emergency, parents are to contact the mobile phone number at 91261926. The line will be activated from 7 am on 22/8/16 to 3.30 pm on 24/8/16).
8. Are mobile phones allowed in the campsite?

For security reasons, all mobile phones will be collected before the start of the camp for safekeeping and kept in the Camp Operations Centre. They will be returned to the pupils upon reaching school. Pupils are allowed to use the mobile phone to contact parents prior to dismissal from school. In case of emergency, parents are to contact the school mobile phone number at 91261926.

9. Will there be time for my child to call home to update me that he or she is alright?

Participants are not allowed to use any of their mobile phone during the camp unless it is an emergency. If you need to contact your child due to an emergency only, do contact the teachers at 91261926.

10. Are there mosquitoes, wild animals and insects in the campsite?

MOE ensures that there are no mosquitoes breeding within the campsite as checks by NEA are made prior to every camp in DFOALC. However, being in the outdoor environment, students are still susceptible to insect bites. Students are encouraged to bring mosquito patches/stickers, insect repellents but do not bring mosquito coils.

11. How am I able to receive updates on the progress of the camp?

All parents will receive updates through SMS at least twice a day.

12. Brief description of the food provided. Will the food for the camp be spicy? Will there be special arrangement made for vegetarian or any dietary specifications?

2 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 2 Dinners and 2 Suppers will be provided. All catered food will be halal certified. There will not be any spicy food given during the camp. Any special dietary requirements (vegetarian diet, specific food allergy, etc.) will be catered if reflected in the online form. Do note that the camp will make provisions on a case-by-case basis.

13. Can my child bring food and drinks to the camp in case he/she is hungry?

There is sufficient food catered during the camp. As the campsite is surrounded by nature, bringing extra food in the bag will attract unwanted pests. Please refrain from bringing any.

14. My child has a sleepwalking problem. Are there any measures taken?

The student will stay on the 1st floor of the dormitory and teachers on sentry duties will check on the student every now and then.