



9<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Morocco Expedition : 20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Current Year 12**

### **Trip Lead – Miss Edwards**

We are thrilled to be able to offer to current Year 12 students the opportunity to participate in an educational trip to Morocco in March 2026 organised by Discover Ltd ([www.discover.ltd.uk](http://www.discover.ltd.uk)).

The proposed dates are for the trip to run from Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026 and returning on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026. The trip will be opened with 20 places available.

This is not the first time that QEGS have visited Morocco with Discover Ltd, our first trip was in 2003 led by Mr Garrity with our last trip was in March 2018. During this memorable trip our students were amazed by the sheer scale and diversity of the natural environment, experiencing an overnight trek in the High Atlas Mountains, a camel ride to an overnight camp in the Agafay Desert, the history and bustle of the Medina and Kasbah in Marrakech. Alongside the exquisite landscape and cultural experience, it was hospitality and warmth of the local people that made the trip unforgettable for our students. We would have the opportunity to offer this amazing experience again!

**Itinerary:** Therefore, for the Morocco 2026 expedition, the proposal is an itinerary of adventure, history and spectacular scenery:

- Day 1: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Travel, short transfer from airport to Hotel Ali (its roof top terrace excitingly and conveniently overlooks Marrakech's main square Jemaa el-Fnaa square) to settle in - depending on flight time there may be time for exploration.
- Day 2: Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March – In the morning a Medina tour in Marrakech and visit to a local girls' schools. In the afternoon we will travel to the Agafay desert, eat a wonderful lunch in the desert, meet your camels and trek into the desert for a night in Tuareg tents, under the stars.
- Day 3: Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March - Transfer to High Atlas Mountains where we acclimatise by taking a local walk around Imlil valley and villages.
- Day 4: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Mountain trek with a picnic en route and overnight camp/stay at mountain village.
- Day 5 Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March - Return trek to Imlil valley and villages, late afternoon time to rest and explore.
- Day 6 Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March - Return to Marrakech, for a final opportunity to explore and final shopping in the souks.
- Day 7 Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March - Travel home

Please see below for a summary of what the trip includes:

- All transport, flights, transfer in the UK and Morocco;
- Fully guided expedition (English speaking 'Discovery Ltd' guide, Moroccan guides at each centre, mountain guides);
- All meals in Morocco (breakfast, lunch and dinner – and lots of sweet mint tea!);
- Tea and coffee with breakfast, water with lunch and dinner;
- All accommodation, including overnight camps;
- Camels;
- All entrance fees to any sites of interest;
- Full and comprehensive travel insurance.

#### What is not included?

- Meals whilst travelling to and from Morocco;
- Fizzy drinks and other alternatives with lunch and dinner;
- Drinks and snacks in-between meal times;
- Tips for guides.

**Cost and Travel:** The initial costing for the trip will be **£1270 per student**. However, the flights and their availability, including UK airports, are yet to be confirmed. Depending on which UK airport (we will aim for as local as possible), please be aware that this means that **the price could increase depending on departure airport and distance UK transfers**. We want to be as transparent as possible that the price quoted above is a calculated estimate due to this reason. We understand that this is a significant cost, so there will be a payment plan to help spread this out.

In order to secure places for your child/children, we will require an initial deposit of £150 by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025 payable via ParentPay.

#### **Payment schedule will be as follows:**

##### **First Deposit**

First deposits of £150.00 per paying passenger are due by 31st January 2025.

##### **Second Deposit**

Second deposits of £150.00 per paying passenger are due by 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

##### **Third Deposit**

Third Deposits of £150.00 per paying passenger are due by 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

##### **Final Balance**

The final remaining balance (which can be paid in 'chunks') for the trip will need to be paid no later than 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025.

If you would like your child/children to attend, please add your child/children's name onto the form below by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

<https://forms.office.com/e/WxXMAwFR1w>

If there is more interest than the number of places available, a fair lottery system will be used to select the required numbers. Parents of these children will then be contracted by school to pay the £150 deposit via ParentPay by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025.

Should you have any queries then please do not hesitate to contact myself on [edwards@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:edwards@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Yours faithfully

Kate Edwards  
**Head of Geography**

*\*by clicking the "consent" button on ParentPay to confirm the payment detailed above, you are also confirming that the emergency contact and medical details we have on our system are correct for your child. Please inform me as a matter of urgency should there be any changes to the details we hold.*