**Ben Squires**

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**Philosophy of Coaching and Leadership**

I fully believe in empowering students to enjoy and develop through their own experiences. I do this by facilitating their outdoor journey and learning in a safe but exciting environment. I search for their individual goals and needs to ensure achievement and further motivation to continue their outdoor adventures, with a desire to pass on knowledge and experience to guide them forwards in other aspects in life as well as the outdoors.

**Personal Statement**

I am an enthusiastic and self-motivated outdoor educator who strives to get the best out of people and show them the amazing things the outdoors can do for them. Over the last few years, I have worked in Africa, America and all over the UK either developing myself further or consolidating the skills I have learnt through full time work or on a freelance basis with a variety of clients in a range of outdoor activities.

A few highlights have been Summiting Mount Kenya with a school group, Kayaking the Fisherman’s Gorge on the Ogwen and climbing Espolon Central in Costa Blanca, Spain.

**Education**

Sep 2016 – June 2020 - B.A. (Hons) Degree in Outdoor Adventure Leadership – 1st Class

Sep 2013 – June 2015 - BTEC Level 3 in Public Services – 3 x Distinction \*

**Outdoor Experience and Qualifications**

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| **Water** | **Land** | **Other** |
| BC Advanced White Water Kayak Leader Training | Summer Mountain Leader  | Outdoor First Aid |
| BC White Water Kayak Leader and Coach | Winter Mountain Leader training | D1+E Minibus and Trailer Licence |
| BC Grade 2 Raft Guide | Rock Climbing Instructor (RCI) | Offsite Safety and Management Course |
| BC Open Water Canoe Leader  | Mountaineering and Climbing Instructor Training (MCI) | Enhanced DBS – Update service |
| BC White Water Canoe Leader | Level 2 Mountain Bike Leader  | Velotech Bronze |
| BC Sea Kayak Leader  | Level 1 Mine Leader Training | Velotech Silver |
| BC Canoe and Kayak Sheltered water coach |  | Velotech Gold |
| Advanced white-water safety and rescue |  |  |
| BC Paddle explore award provider |  |  |
| BC Sea Kayak award provider |  |  |
| BC White Water award provider |  |  |
| Paddle sport safety and rescue provider |  |  |

Also experienced in coasteering, gorge walking, canyoning, expeditions, team building, archery and shooting.

**Interests and hobbies**

My interests are driven by my passion for the outdoors. I enjoy climbing of all manners, kayaking, canoeing, mountaineering, mountain biking, coasteering and expeditions – all of which I participate in regularly.

Other hobbies include travel, animals, hockey, wakeboarding, shooting, gaming and go Karting.

**Previous employment**

August 2022 – Present – Gordonstoun School, Scotland: Outdoor adventure learning instructor

April 2022 to Present – Freelance Outdoor Instructor

September 2020 to April 2022 – Glenmore Lodge, Scotland: Instructor Development Scheme

April 2020 to September 2020 – SSE outdoors, Somerset: Outdoor Instructor

October 2019 to April 2020 – Westview Climbing Centre, Preston: Climbing Instructor

May 2019 to September 2019 - Savage Wilderness, Kenya: Outdoor Instructor

May 2018 to May 2019 - Arete Outdoor Centre, North Wales: Trainee Outdoor Instructor

October 2017 to May 2018 - Clip n Climb, Preston: Team Instructor

May 2017 to August 2017 - YMCA Camp Silver Beach, Virginia, USA: Expedition and Leadership Director

May 2016 to September 2016 - YMCA Camp Silver Beach, Virginia, USA: Senior Camp counsellor

October 2015 to May 2016 - Silvers Pantry, Somerset: Restaurant Manager

June 2015 to August 2015 - YMCA Camp Silver Beach, Virginia, USA: Camp Counsellor

**References are available on request**