

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PURCHASING  
OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT.**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Grade 5 expedition is drawing closer. For all students, this is the first time they are participating in a WAB Wild expedition. We have prepared an equipment list (attached) as part of the student's preparation, and we are aware that some families may have to purchase some of the items on this equipment list.

If you need to purchase equipment, we, as a department would recommend that you avoid the markets, and that you use some of the more reputable outdoor stores. To this end we would like to share that we purchase our own equipment, both department and personal from the Decathlon stores. Many of the equipment items that your child will need will be required for the remainder of their time at WAB, and are a worthwhile investment.

The Western Academy of Beijing has no affiliation with Decathlon; it is just a highly recommended outdoor store in China. As the Outdoor Education department we see the equipment at Decathlon as being long lasting, reasonably priced and more than adequate for our expeditions. Of course, you are welcome to purchase the equipment from any other stores, or bring it from your home country, but again we do recommend that you avoid market quality equipment.

Please see the attached sheet for some examples of equipment that we would recommend your child have for their safety and comfort.

Any questions please email or phone me.

Sincerely,

Elliott Bowyer  
Director of Outdoor Education  
Western Academy of Beijing

**EXAMPLES OF RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT**

Recommended Equipment	NOT Recommended Equipment
<p><b>Recommended Equipment</b>  <b>Sleeping bag (Mummy style):</b>            Comfortable at 0<sup>0</sup> Celsius (especially for Grade 6 – 8)</p> 	<p><b>DO NOT PURCHASE ANY SLEEPING BAG THAT HAS A ‘COMFORT LEVEL’ ABOVE 0<sup>0</sup> CELSIUS</b></p> 
<p><b>Recommended Equipment</b>  <b>Large backpack:</b>            Should fit your back with adjustable fitting straps            50-60 litres            Check the labels for sizing’s</p> 	<p><b>DO NOT PURCHASE ANY BACK PACK BAGS FROM THE MARKET</b></p>
<p><b>Recommended Equipment</b>  <b>Sleeping mat:</b>  <b>Foam Sleeping Mat or Air Sleeping Mat</b></p> 	<p><b>DO NOT PURCHASE A YOGA OR EXERCISE MAT TO SLEEP ON</b></p> 
<p><b>Recommended Equipment</b>  <b>Waterproof jacket (with hood):</b></p> 	<p><b>DO NOT PURCHASE RAIN JACKETS WITHOUT A HOOD</b></p> <p><b>DO NOT PURCHASE RAIN JACKETS FROM A MARKET</b></p>

**THE LOCATION OF DECATHLON STORES IN BEIJING**

<p><b>WELCOME to your store Da Jiaoting store.</b>            195 Dong Si Huan Zhong LU (195, East 4th ring mid Road, close to Da Jiao Ting Bridge.) 100022 Beijing Phone: (86 10) 8777 8788 Fax: (86 10) 8777 8565            Monday to Thursday: 9h00 at 21h00 from Friday to Saturday: 9h00 at 22h00 Sunday: 9h00 at 21h00</p>
<p><b>WELCOME to your store Longde store.</b>            No.186 Litang Rd., Longde Square, Changping District, Beijing, China 102218 Beijing Phone: (86 10) 8484 4848 Fax: (86 10) 8481 5656            Monday to Sunday: 10h00 at 22h00</p>
<p><b>WELCOME to your store Yi Zhuang store.</b>            No. 3 Wen Hua Yuan West Road, Economic-Technological Development Area (South-East 5th Ring, exit Yizhuang, close to B&amp;Q) 100176 Beijing Phone: (86 10) 6782 6100 Fax: (86 10) 6782 6010            Monday to Thursday: 9h00 at 21h00 from Friday to Saturday: 9h00 at 22h00 Sunday: 9h00 at 21h00</p>
<p><b>WELCOME to your store Laiguangying store.</b>            No.66-1, Xiangbin Road, Laiguangying (next to B&amp;Q, Auchan, AIKA) 100000 Beijing Phone: 67798886 Fax: 67750506            Monday to Thursday: 9h00 at 21h00 from Friday to Saturday: 9h00 at 22h00 Sunday: 9h00 at 21h00</p>