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OPENING OF NEW OBS CONEY CAMPUS EXPANDS ACCESS TO OUTDOOR ADVENTURE EXPERIENCE FOR YOUTHS

The opening of Outward Bound Singapore (OBS)'s new Coney Campus will expand the MOE-OBS Challenge (MOC) programme to more Secondary 3 students across all Ministry of Education (MOE) schools, giving them a shared formative experience beyond the classroom. The opening of the new Coney Campus is a key initiative under the SG Youth Plan.

2 The OBS Coney Campus was officially opened by Guest-of-Honour Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Mr Lawrence Wong on 11 September 2026, together with Mr David Neo, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth & Second Minister for Education, and Ms Goh Hanyan, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth & Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment.

3 Outdoor adventure education provides a critical role in youth development by giving youths a real-world challenge that nudges them to step outside their comfort zones, cultivating confidence, ruggedness, teamwork, and honing character. The MOC programme is a critical part of the National Outdoor Adventure Education (NOAE) Masterplan, where students experience outdoor education through their schooling years. The five-day expeditionary MOC programme is the culmination high point, where students are mixed across schools and learn to tackle challenges as a team.

4 The new campus paves the way for an expansion of the MOC programme to 100% of the Secondary 3 cohort by 2030. The programme allows students to learn life skills in real-world settings alongside peers beyond their usual circles and even apply mental well-being skills learnt in school to outdoor challenges. By overcoming challenges together and reflecting

on their shared experiences, students grow in confidence, build stronger connections and strengthen their mental resilience.

5 David Chua, Chief Executive Officer of NYC said, “In a world of increasing complexity and uncertainty, our young people need to build the ability to operate in ambiguity. We have seen how youths grow when they are given the chance to take on challenges and work with others - they discover they have more in them than they know”.

6 Since the inception of the MOC programme in 2017, over 120,000 Secondary 3 students have gone through the experience as of 2025. From the post-programme evaluations, students shared that the MOC programme gave them greater confidence, resilience to overcome difficult challenges, and helped them to better connect with friends of diverse backgrounds.

New Campus Facilities for Experiential Learning

7 The new OBS Coney Campus is designed to deepen experiential learning and champion environmental causes through these key features:

- **Uniquely designed team-based challenges that deepen experiential learning**, with activities designed for groups of up to four students working together, a shift from the previous pair-based format. This facilitates richer group opportunities and creates more natural opportunities for students to develop life skills such as leadership and problem-solving.
- **Universal design for youths of different backgrounds to create shared experiences** with wheelchair-accessible facilities, empowering youths of all abilities to fully participate in outdoor adventure together and be part of an OBS experience.
- **Coney Campus as an expedition hub**, with its location making it ideal for conducting programmes at mainland Singapore and Pulau Ubin. Its links to mainland Singapore enable land expeditions across various campsites island-wide, while its connectivity to Pulau Ubin allows for kayaking and rowboat expeditions. This extends the classroom beyond the campus, challenging youths in a range of unfamiliar environments.
- **Integration of nature into campus design**, with low-rise buildings that blend seamlessly with existing vegetation layers and diversified planting that creates new habitats for a wider range of fauna species. The campus’ eco-friendly features such as rainwater harvesting systems reduce water usage for irrigation and washing of equipment, while the optimised natural ventilation minimises reliance on air-

conditioning. These elements give students a glimpse of what responsible environmental stewardship looks like in practice.

8 OBS has started operationalising the Coney campus with small scale MOC pilots since June 2026. OBS will progressively increase the capacity at Coney Campus in a manner that maintains a safe and good quality programme experience.

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About the SG Youth Plan

MCCY, NYC, and our partners launched a series of engagements from November 2024 to early 2026 for youths from all walks of life to share their views on topics ranging from careers and well-being to relationships and civic action. These engagements culminated in the SG Youth Plan, launched in July 2026 – a five-year action plan created by youths, for youths, and supported by all of us, so that we collectively do our part for Singapore and fellow Singaporeans. More information on the SG Youth Plan can be found at www.youthplan.gov.sg.

About the National Youth Council

At NYC we believe in a world where young people are respected and heard and have the ability to influence and make a difference in the world. Together with our partners, we develop future-ready youth who are committed to Singapore by instilling in them a heart for service, resilience and an enterprising spirit.

About Outward Bound Singapore (OBS)

With 59 years of legacy, OBS is the pioneer and leader in outdoor education in Singapore, providing adventure-based experiential learning to help develop rugged and resilient youths.

On 1 January 2015, OBS became part of the NYC to support youth development and broaden outreach to young Singaporeans and youth sector organisations.