



19 May 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying Expedition Plans

As you are aware your child has now started the very exciting journey of completing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. There are four aspects to this award which need to be completed by your child and evidenced in their D of E app or D of E account (same platform accessed in different ways). The four aspects of the award are: Volunteering, Skill, Physical and Expedition.

The school are responsible for organising the expedition aspect of this award, and I write to inform you of the proposed date for this. Your child will do a number of practice walks leading up to this event, which will be communicated closer to the time and will be during a school day.

The Qualifying Walk will take place on **Saturday 10 July and Sunday 11 July**. *This is a compulsory walk*. This will be in the Henley-On –Thames/Hurley area, and will require you to pick up and drop of your child at the location. Should transport be an issue, we will ask for you to indicate this closer to the time and we may be able to support a small number of students. We would ask you now, that should this be an issue, to see if you can arrange car sharing for your child.

Rules dependent, we intend to camp on the Saturday night in the same area and the school will provide the tent, and cooker for your child. The campsite details will be shared closer to the time, once we have more clarity on the rules. Should we still be unable to camp at this point, students will be required to be dropped off and collected on both days to the same area. This is the only way we have been able to keep cost so low.

There will be an additional walk in the school day on Friday 9 July, to ensure students are confident with the area. On this day students will walk with a staff member to ensure they are ready to take on this challenge as a group, with remote supervision from staff on the Saturday and Sunday.

To reassure you, all sessions held on a Tuesday (3.00pm – 4.15pm) at school is preparing your child for this weekend. They will cover topics including map reading, route planning, safety and The Countryside Code, Cooking, putting up a tent and kit preparation.

We very much look forward to this weekend, and hope that sharing the date in advance ensures your child is available at this time.

Yours sincerely

Miss C Burns
DofE Manager