

13 March 2023

Dear Parent or Carer,

RE: Duke of Edinburgh Expedition protocol and itinerary

Your child is about to embark on their Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) expedition which has been arranged for Friday 14 to Sunday 20 April 2023. The Bronze training and expedition will take place around the Cropton Forest area, with access to the facilities at Spiers Bank House as required. This is a 2-day expedition with an additional day's training for Bronze. The Silver qualifying expedition will take place over the three days across the North York Moors and finish at Spiers House on the Sunday. Camping will take place at Spiers Bank House each night.

Students have the option of being dropped off by parents/carers at Spiers House on the Friday morning at 9 am or being collected from school at 8 am. On the last day (Sunday), students can be collected from Spiers House at 4.30 pm or from school at 5.30 pm. A kit list, including food arrangements, will be issued closer to the time with your child, as well as the issuing of rucksacks, sleeping bags and tents, as required. We will also have a parental meeting on Wednesday 22 March from 4 – 5 pm to discuss the expedition and give you opportunity to ask questions and clarify any concerns if needed.

Expedition information

Unlike other school trips, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions are remotely supervised. This means that although there will be staff present, we will not be accompanying the students on their expedition. Instead we meet them at various pre-arranged checkpoints, and supervise them from a distance. The students will all have an emergency contact card, with details of the school phone numbers to call in case of an emergency/injury/navigation failure, as well as an emergency radio. These school phones and radios will be carried by trip leaders so that students can contact us at any time. Students are directed not to contact home for themselves, if there is anything we need to inform you of whilst your child is on expedition a member of staff will be in contact with you. Likewise, if you need to contact your child at all please do so via one of the school mobile numbers, which will be distributed to you prior to departure, and we will pass any on any messages on your behalf.

Due to the nature of Duke of Edinburgh expeditions all students wishing to partake in the expedition must be displaying appropriate behaviour, both in school prior to the expedition, and during the expedition itself. In the unlikely event that I deem their behaviour to be unacceptable in school prior to expedition, then students will be

refused access to the expedition for their own safety, and for the safety of other participants. If this happens it is likely your child will not complete their expedition section until the following year when expeditions for their award level run again.

As with all educational visits, we expect our student's behaviour to be the same standard as in school. In the unlikely event that we experience behaviour issues on an expedition we may make the decision to send students home. If this were to occur, parents or carers would be expected to collect their child, and they may lose the cost of the expedition.

Please complete the consent form via the following link by Friday 17 March 2023: <https://forms.office.com/e/hU9RryDurY>. Should you have any queries regarding the trip, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01377 253631 or mathew.osburn@driffieldschool.org.uk.

Yours faithfully,



Mr M Osburn
Duke of Edinburgh's Award Manager

