

January 2022

Dear Parent / Guardian

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Duke of Edinburgh – Bronze Peak District Practice Expedition Group C: Friday 20th and Saturday 21st May 2022

As part of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, students will complete a two day practice expedition on the above date in the Peak District. Students will be walking in the White Peak area and will stay at a campsite en-route in the Peak District.

Walking in groups, students will navigate their way along a planned route, carrying all their kit in a rucksack. Groups are remotely supervised during the day, meeting up with staff members along the way. On reaching the campsite, students will pitch their tents and cook their evening meal on a Trangia stove. The next morning, after eating their breakfast and packing away camp, students will set off for the second day of their practice expedition.

There may be an opportunity to have a campfire during the evening, which will be directly supervised by staff. There will also be the opportunity for a short night walk, led by staff, to help develop students' navigation skills.

Expeditions are supervised by a team of Lees Brook staff. They are on hand throughout the expedition, meeting with groups along the route and staying at the same campsite to supervise and offer support when necessary.

Wednesday Before the Expedition

Students are expected to attend a preparation session at school from 3.00pm – 4:00pm approx. to pack their rucksacks. Students will need to bring in all belongings necessary, in a bin bag labelled clearly with their name. This will be stored safely in the D of E Store Room and packed after school. Only perishable food / medication should be brought in on the day of the expedition.

Expedition Schedule

Students should arrive at school for 8:00am on the morning of the expedition. We will be leaving school shortly after and will travel to the Peak District by school transport.

We will be returning to school during the afternoon / evening on Saturday. We are unable to provide a specific return time due to the nature of the activity. There is limited mobile signal in the Peak District; however, your youngster will be able to contact you on the way to school to provide you with an estimated time of arrival.

Students are required to help unpack equipment on return to school which will take approximately 60 minutes. Your youngster will be free to make their own way home when this is complete.

3 Month Assessors Report Deadline: Friday 18th March 2022

Please be aware that your youngster must have uploaded their two, three month section assessor's reports on to their D of E App by the above date. This is for their chosen skill / volunteering / physical sections of the award.

Students will not be allowed to attend the expedition if the two reports have not been uploaded. Students have been shown how to do this during meetings; however, should your youngster have any difficulties with this, please tell them to see their leader who will be able to help.

Mobile phones

We encourage students to bring mobile phones for emergency use. It is, however, against D of E conditions for students to use mobile phones for any other reason during their expedition. Because of this, students will have their phone sealed in a tamper proof bag, which can be kept with them for emergency use. D of E is a great opportunity for some screen downtime. We have a D of E mobile should your youngster feel home sick and need to make a quick call home before bed.

Emergency Contact Details & COVID-19 Testing

If your child has consent for COVID-19 home testing, we ask that they test themselves the morning before the expedition begins. You must not allow your child to attend the expedition if they have a positive test or have any symptoms of COVID-19.

Please provide any information about your child, such as medical conditions, medication or personal circumstances that may affect your child's performance whilst on the expedition. It is vital that leaders are aware of this for the safety and well-being of your child and others around them.

Should your child become unwell and need to go home, an emergency contact (parent / relative) must be available to call on to collect your child from the Peak District immediately.

Please confirm your up-to-date emergency contact details on the consent form. Please also indicate on the reply form if you are happy for your child to be given Ibuprofen / Paracetamol by a designated First Aider, should they require it during the expedition.

Kit requirements

Students will need to bring the items on the attached kit list. We have a limited supply of kit that can be loaned to your child at no extra cost (please see kit list). If your child requires any of these items for the expedition, please specify this on the personal kit loan request form.

Please complete the online reply form by **Sunday 6th February 2022**, giving your consent for your youngster to take part in this expedition.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=iQyZl2eu_EqHzkcMl6_rN-VbkjtCMlpBtpYU1rTFX7IUQUVEOEIDVjNTQIBLRjJWU0I3TORLRlpJMy4u

If your youngster needs to borrow hiking boots, waterproofs or a sleeping bag, please request below:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=iQyZl2eu_EqHzkcMl6_rN-VbkjtCMlpBtpYU1rTFX7IUMU1TTURMUTI3R1IWTzYxNVAXS0UzVjhYVY4u

I wish your youngster every success with their practice expedition. Should you have any queries about any aspect of the Award, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



Mr A Waterhouse
D of E Manager

Personal kit Provided by Student		
Item	Description	Check
1	Camp food - 1 dinner, 1 breakfasts, 2 lunches	
2	Emergency food (wrapped in plastic bags and labelled e.g. cereal bar, dried fruit, jelly)	
3	Plimsolls or light / compactable trainers for use at campsite	
4	Hat - baseball cap in hot weather & woolly hat in colder weather	
5	Gloves (for cold weather expeditions)	
6	Knife, fork, spoon, bowl & mug - small & lightweight (plastic only)	
7	Bin bags x4 - For keeping things dry & rubbish etc.	
8	Personal medication (if applicable)	
9	Sun cream (high factor - essential if hot weather)	
10	Toiletries (Travel size) (toothbrush / paste, toilet paper, soap).	
11	Torch – with full batteries	
12	Hand towel (small)	
13	Walking clothes - plus one spare set (t-shirt / shorts / tracksuit bottoms / fleece / underwear) NO JEANS	
14	Walking socks – available from outdoor shops (two pairs)	
15	Watch	
16	Water bottles - plastic ideally; 2 x 750ml bottles or 2 x 1 litre bottles	
17	Whistle for emergency help	
18	Personal first aid kit – including Compeed Blister Plasters	
19	Survival bag (e.g. Hi Gear Survival Bag from Go Outdoors £2.25 approx.)	
20	Emergency blanket (put in carrier bag with name on – transported in the minibus should your youngster be cold at night)	
21	Hot Water Bottle (Optional for cold weather expeditions - transported in the minibus)	
22	Hand sanitiser and packet of wet wipes - small / pocket size	
23	Face Covering including spares (spares to be kept in a sealed waterproof plastic bag)	

Group kit One Per Walking Team		
Item	Description	Person responsible
24	Brillo pads / washing up liquid in a small bottle	
25	Matches (in waterproof container) no lighters	
26	Old dish cloth & tea towel	
27	Tin opener (if needed)	
28	Wooden spoon	

Kit available to loan from school (or provide yourself)		
We have limited supply. Please specify on the reply form if your youngster would like to borrow any of these items		
Item	Description	Check
29	Hiking boots - High enough sides to protect from ankle injuries. Must be fully waterproof.	
30	Compact Sleeping bag (2 season for summer, 3 season for spring / autumn expeditions). Must be in compression sack	
31	Waterproofs - coat and over-trousers. Coat must have attached hood. Breathable fabric and fully waterproof.	

Kit provided by school This kit will be provided to all students.		
Item	Description	
32	Roll mat	
33	Trangia stove & Gas bottle	
34	Lightweight backpacking tent	
35	Rucksack (65L) - (you can provide your own rucksack)	

It is important to bring suitable clothing for unpredictable weather. Day 1 could be torrential rain and very cold with gale force winds. Day 2 could be warm and sunny. Be prepared! Should you have any questions, please ask your leader.