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Letter No: 165/2023

17th April 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 11 – Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award 6th – 8th July 2023: Qualifying Expedition

Please find below the details for the qualifying expedition for the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award for Year 11.

Qualifying Expedition

Date: Thursday 6th – Saturday 8th July 2023

Location: Peak District

Cost: £85 by 9th June 2023

Transport: Coach/minibus

During this phase all teams will be self-sufficient and students will need to provide sufficient supplies of food for 2 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 evening meals and additional snacks.

We will be completing route planning before the students go on study leave and we will have an additional meeting at the end of June/beginning of July to finalise details of the trip. All updates will also be posted on Google classroom.

Trip Details

We aim to be leaving from school at 8.00am and therefore it is essential that all participants have arrived and checked in by 7.30am. It is anticipated that all participants will have completed their expeditions by mid-afternoon on Saturday 8th July. The coach/minibuses should leave at 4.00pm and we should arrive back at school between 6.30pm – 7.00pm. We will be based at Barn Farm campsite near Birchover. This is a public campsite but we will have a designated camping area and toilet/wash facilities. Whilst at the campsite and out walking the participants will be in their expedition groups.

Equipment

Kit hire: If you need to hire equipment, please complete the attached online form and pay on ParentPay. All participants must be in possession of walking boots and full waterproofs for all phases of the expedition. Participants have access to a kit list via Google classroom but I have attached one for your information.



Supervision on expedition

An important part of the DofE experience is to be independent and self-reliant. As a DofE unit we have clear procedures in place to support groups through their expedition. Each group is provided with contact numbers for DofE mobile phones which they are permitted to ring should they encounter any difficulties. If this occurs, staff will deal with the situation. Other than ringing staff for support, mobile phones **MUST NOT** be used. Please **DO NOT** expect to be in contact with your child whilst they are on expedition. We will post updates on our Twitter feed and your child will be allowed to ring you once they have finished their expedition.

Expedition Preparation

There will be a route planning session on Tuesday 2nd May from 3.15-4.30. There will be a final preparation session in the week prior to the expeditions. Date and time will be shared on Google classroom.

Confirming Attendance

Please complete the attached electronic medical/consent form. Please pay via ParentPay in the usual way.

If you have any questions, or would like more information, please feel free to contact me at dofe@sandringham.herts.sch.uk

The emergency contact number for the trip is 07785240216.

Yours sincerely,

Alison Cuneen
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Co-ordinator