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Headteacher: **Alan Gray, M.Sc., F.R.S.A.**

Deputy Headteacher: **Caroline Creaby, BA, M.Ed., Ed.D. (MAT)**

Senior Deputy Headteacher: **Mark Nicholls, BA (Hons)**

Acting Deputy Headteacher: **Mark Allday, BSc (Hons)**

Acting Deputy Headteacher: **Kate Mouncey, BSc (Hons), M.Ed.**

Letter No: 020/2023

21st September 2023

Dear Families,

Year 11 – Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Your child has expressed an interest in continuing with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award to Silver level. There is an enrolment fee for each level of the Award which is £30.50. This has been added to your ParentPay account and the Silver level will be added to your child's eDofE account. They will then be sent their Silver pack through the post from DofE central.

We run two expeditions for Silver, both of which are compulsory. The Qualifying expedition will take place from 4th – 6th July 2024 in the Peak District. The expeditions are 3 day, 2 night expeditions.

Practice Expedition

Date: Sunday 8th – Tuesday 10th October 2023

Departure time: 8.00am from school

Return time: 3.00pm (approximated depending on traffic)

Location: South Downs

Trip Cost: £70

Transport: Coach/minibus (outward and return)

The participants will be in groups of between 4 and 7. We will be travelling by coach down to the starting point near Steyning.

Over the course of the expedition, the groups will be working as independent teams and staff will see them **at least** once during the course of each day at pre-arranged checkpoints. In addition, staff will be camping at the same campsites as the participants.



Supervision

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.

We will be camping at Park Wood campsite for both nights.

Training

Your child attended a training and planning session on Tuesday 19th September and there will be a final session on Thursday 5th October. These take place after school and will last no more than 2 hours. All timings/locations will be communicated via Google classroom.

Food

Participants will need to plan their menus and supply their own food. They need to plan and provide 3 lunches, 2 evening meals and 2 breakfasts in addition to any snacks. There is guidance on expedition food on the Google classroom.

Kit Hire

We have rucksacks, tents and cooking stoves which can be hired for use on expedition. Please complete the attached kit hire form and pay via ParentPay. There is a full kit list posted on Google classroom and I have attached a copy for your information. Pre-hired kit will be distributed at the training session on 5th October.

Medical/Consent form & Payment

The cost of the trip is £70. Payments need to be made no later than 2nd October 2023. This can be paid via ParentPay. Could you please also complete the attached electronic medical / consent form.

Further details will be sent out following the practice expedition.

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

Yours sincerely,

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