



7th March 2022

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Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: DofE Bronze Training Weekend and Expeditions

I am writing to you with details of the upcoming Training Weekend, Practice and Assessed Expeditions which we are quickly approaching. This will be the focus of the Expedition Information Evening, scheduled for Thursday 10th March at 6pm. The event is for students and parents/carers and will be **taking place in Osborn Hall**.

Training Weekend - 19th / 20th March

It is vitally important that all participants have completed the necessary expedition training in advance of any expedition. We complete the majority of this training over the course of a training weekend, covering: team building, kit requirements, packing a rucksack, the countryside code and 20 conditions, first aid and emergency procedures, route planning, pitching and striking camp, cooking safely with a Trangia.

The cohort has been split into an X and a Y band.

The X Band will complete their training on Saturday 19th March. Students with Mrs. Bezuidenhout, Ms. Syed and Mr. Beka (team 1 only) as their leader will have their training on this day.

The Y Band will complete their training on Sunday 20th March. Students with Ms. Frost, Ms Adeyemi and Mr. Beka (team 2 only) as their leader will have their training on this day.

Practice Expedition – 1st - 2nd / 2nd - 3rd April

We will be keeping the practice expedition local, so we will be staying at the Hertford Camping and Caravan site, Hertford, Mangrove Road, SG13 8AJ. We will be camping overnight and then students will be walking their navigated route on day 2 from the campsite back to Ridgeway Academy. Students will need to be dropped off by parents/carers at the campsite in Hertford at 5:30pm and picked up from school on their return. We anticipate that students will be back at school by 2pm on the second day. Please, keep an eye on the RWADofE Twitter for updates. @rwadofe

The Y band will have their expedition on the 1st to the 2nd of April.

The X band will have their expedition on the 2nd to the 3rd of April.

Assessed Expedition – 28th - 29th May / 11th - 12th June

Our Qualifying Expeditions take place around Chesham. Students will spend the night camping on Corner Farm Camp Site nr. Kings Ash. Students will need to be dropped off and collected by a parent/carer. On day one, we will be following staggered start times between 9am and 10am. Groups will be given an arrival time closer to the expedition. On day two, we expect students to have returned to Chesham by 3pm.

Please, keep an eye on the RWADofE Twitter account for updates. @rwadofe

The X Band will have their expedition on the 28th to the 29th of May.

The Y Band will have their expedition on the 11th to the 12th of June.

I hope to be able to answer any questions you may have during the Expedition Information Evening on Thursday but as ever, please do not hesitate to drop me a message if there is anything you would like to raise. I look forward to seeing you at 6pm in Osborn Hall.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R Sutton
DofE Coordinator