



6th September 2018

Re: DofE Silver Award - Practice Expedition

Date: Wednesday 12th - Saturday 15th September 2018

Location: Old Hall Farm, Gradbach, Quarnford, Staffordshire, SK17 0SU

Dear Parent or Carer,

This letter contains all of the information that I have already discussed with the DofE participants. The silver expedition takes place over 3 days and 2 nights, however due to the expedition being in the Peak District we are having to drive up the night before. Therefore, the participants will not actually start their expedition until Thursday morning.

Meals

So that the participants get enough food before their expedition starts, we intend on doing the following:

- Wednesday evening - taking the participants for dinner (KFC, Nandos, chip shop etc). This will depend on what is available to us close to the campsite. This will need to be funding by the participants so please let me know as soon as possible if this is a problem.
- Thursday morning - providing the participants with freshly cooked bacon sandwiches (free of charge).

The expedition will then start so from then, the participants are responsible for their own food. They will need the following:

- Packed lunch/sandwiches/snacks for Thursday, Friday and Saturday whilst they are walking
- Breakfast for Friday and Saturday
- Hot meal to cook on Thursday and Friday evening

Walking

All participants have been placed in walking groups, of which each will have a dedicated leader for the whole expedition. For day 1, the leader will walk behind the group to ensure they can remember their map reading skills. For days 2 and 3, the group will walk without a leader, however the leader will meet the group at checkpoints throughout the day.

As this is a practice expedition, routes for day 1 and day 2 will be provided. Whilst we are in the Peak District, the groups will need to plan their own route for day 3. The routes will vary in length but the participants must be off the campsite for 7 hours a day (walking at least 4 hours) as a requirement of the DofE.

Personal Kit

Each participant will be responsible for providing their own personal kit needed for the expedition. All kit is to be in a suitable rucksack. Everything that is taken on this expedition must be carried round from when the expedition starts so it is really important to only pack what is needed.

Any electrical items that are brought are by personal choice and we cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage. Mobile phones are permitted.

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Principal: Mr A Prior



Group kit

We will provide all necessary group kit this Friday. Group Kit supplied includes tents, Trangiers (stove with pot and pan), compass, maps and map-cases. Participants will pack this equipment, shared between their group members in their rucksacks

Group kit will be signed for; participants will keep all equipment until the last expedition in October. Tents should be dried and cleaned after each use. Pans should be washed and cleaned at home after use in preparation for the next expedition. Loss and damage (through neglect) will be billed accordingly.

Personal information

Please fill in the personal information sheet at the end of this letter prior to the expedition. This then needs to be handed to myself.

Timings

Departure - We are due to leave Etonbury at 3:30pm on Wednesday 12th September. Therefore the participants are to come to school on that day wearing their own clothes. They can drop their rucksacks off in the gym in the morning and meet me in there at the end of the day. ***Due to the expedition starting on the Thursday morning, I will allow each participant to leave a bag behind in the minibus which contains things they will not need for those 3 expedition days.***

Return - We hope to be back at school between 6 - 7pm on Saturday 15th September. Our return time will depend on how successful the routes are completed on that day and of course, traffic. We will keep you updated throughout the day so you have enough notice of our arrival.

If you have any questions or concerns please can I ask you to contact me via email (kthomas@bestacademies.org.uk).

Best Regards,

Miss Kate Thomas

DofE leader

kthomas@bestacademies.org.uk

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