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Tuesday, 07 February 2023

Dear Year 9 DofE student and parent/carer,

Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Expeditions

We are delighted to confirm that we have now confirmed Bronze DofE Training and Expedition dates for 2023. We will be working with JC Adventures to provide a full practice day and run our expedition. JC Adventures are a DofE Approved Activity Provider and have been providing support to schools in the area for several years. They provide tents, Trangia stoves and gas, maps, and campsite fees for the duration of the expedition. The qualified, experienced instructors and assessors from JC Adventures will support the BA Volunteer Staff who have also completed DofE Expedition Supervisor training.

This year we will be offering a full practice day in lieu of a practice expedition. There is no requirement for a practice expedition for the Bronze Award and it has often been difficult for families to fit in two full weekends around other commitments. The dates for the practice day and expedition are as follows:

Sunday 21st May 2023 – DofE Full Practice Day (including early evening, not overnight)
– The Mendips

Saturday 1st July – Sunday 2nd July 2023 – Bronze DofE Qualifying Expedition – The Mendips

There is a cost to the expeditions and training of **£110 per person**, to be broken down in 3 payments as follows:

- Payment 1 = **£40 due by Friday 3rd March 2023**
- Payment 2 = **£40 due by Friday 21st April 2023**
- Payment 3 = **£30 due by Friday 2nd June 2023**

We would like the DofE award to be accessible for all students so if the costs will be an issue for you, please do contact us as soon as possible to discuss support that we can offer. Payments should be made via ParentPay and there will be a 20% reduction for Pupil Premium students. Payments will be available to make on Parent Pay after Half Term.

If you asked for support with kit for the expeditions, please indicate on the reply form which kit you would need to borrow, and we will do our best to arrange this.



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*Maximising students'
abilities, ambitions
and academic potential*

Please complete this online reply slip for the expeditions to confirm if your child can do these dates and to ask any questions you may have:

[Reply Slip for Bronze DofE Expeditions 2023](#) (this will be emailed and put on SMHW)

If you would like to take part in the expeditions, you will need to complete training / preparations as follows:

- **Afterschool sessions** will be compulsory for students to improve navigation, teamwork and map skills and start planning for their expeditions with their groups. Sessions will take place fortnightly on Tuesdays, beginning 7th February from 3pm-4:30pm as per the table below:

Term 3	7 th February 2023
Term 4	28 th February 2023
	14 th March 2023
	28 th March 2023
Term 5	25 th April 2023
	9 th May 2023
	23 rd May 2023
Term 6	13 th June 2023
	27 th June 2023

- **The full practice day with JC Adventures** will take place on Sunday 21st May. Timings, drop off and collection points will be confirmed once JC Adventures have confirmed numbers.
- **Source individual kit** from kit list including walking boots, large hiking rucksack, sleeping bag, roll mat, waterproofs etc. or let us know on the reply slip if you need to borrow kit. The school and JC Adventures will provide the tents, maps, compasses and Trangia's for cooking.
- **Make transport arrangements** for getting to and from the expedition and practice day with your expedition group.

Please complete the reply slip online form by Monday 20th February and include any questions you may have or email dofe@broadoakacademy.clf.uk and one of the team will get back to you as soon as we can.

The DofE Team are really looking forward to starting this adventure with you.

Yours faithfully,

Broadoak DofE Leaders