

27 February 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition: Saturday 20 May - Sunday 21 May 2017

Your son/daughter will be attending a weekend practice expedition in and around Kingsbury Water Park on **Saturday 20 May 2017 and Sunday 21 May 2017** in order to prepare them for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition to Malvern during the last week of the summer term. Students will stay at a supervised campsite on the Saturday night.

All students are expected to make their own way to Kingsbury Waterpark's main Visitor Centre entrance and meet by the Visitor Centre at 11.00 am on the Saturday and be picked up by their parents at 10.00 am on the Sunday at the same place. May I advise you, there is a charge of £4.00 to enter the car park, however it is free to drop pupils off just before, and to the left of the main barrier. A map of directions from school has been attached.

Your child will need to be self-sufficient for the weekend, packing their own rucksacks with all the necessary provisions i.e., food, drinks, tent (can be provided by school if required), 65-litre rucksack, sleeping bag, spare clothes (full list attached). Tents and stoves can be borrowed from school where necessary.

There will be no charge for this weekend. I hope you will find the following information useful:

Expedition (Clothing and Food)

All students will participate in a 1-night, 2-day expedition (Saturday and Sunday) covering approximately 10-15 miles. Walking boots are essential and clothing should be as detailed as the kit list overleaf suggests. Students need to bring one lunch (Saturday), one hot evening meal (Saturday evening), and one breakfast (Sunday morning). Lightweight but wholesome food is preferable.

Pocket Money

There is no need for students to bring any money with them, however if pupils wish to visit the Visitor Centre before or after the expedition, they are more than welcome to.

First Aid

A number of staff accompanying the trip have sound knowledge of First Aid. Your child will be responsible for their own medication as stated on the consent form, and health and safety whilst on their expedition.

Insurance

All students and staff are comprehensively insured with HSBC Insurance for all travel and activity arrangements.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are not allowed to be used during the expedition. If they choose to, students can hand-in their mobile phones to staff, to be stored in a safe place. However each group must allocate one phone per group to be used as an emergency phone, this must be turned off, sealed in a waterproof bag, and placed in the bottom of a group members' rucksack.

Kit/Clothing

As per kit list attached. Students needing to borrow kit (Tents and Stoves) from school will collect this on arrival at Kingsbury Waterpark. We cannot predict weather so students should be prepared for all eventualities, waterproofs (top and trousers) are essential. Students will be sleeping in 2-man tents on the campsite, so please ensure they bring the minimum of personal belongings in a rucksack to ensure it fits into the tent

Behaviour

We expect all students to adhere to our high standards of behaviour at all times. All students have signed a code of conduct sheet during the country code training session.

Finally, may I thank you for allowing your son/daughter to attend the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition weekend, and confirm that the staff involved have a variety of appropriate qualifications, and collectively a considerable amount of experience in outdoor activities. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Please return the consent form below to reception by **Wednesday 4 May**. If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me on the number below

Yours sincerely

Mr R Morris
Extra Curricular Activities Coordinator

CONSENT FORM

Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition

I give permission for my son/daughter _____ to attend the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition Weekend on Saturday 20 May and Sunday 21 2017.

I understand that while the school staff will take all reasonable care of the children they cannot necessary be held responsible for any loss, damage or injury suffered by my son/daughter arising during or out of the school journey.

Signed _____ Date _____
Parent / Carer