

28 May 2021

Dear Parents,

As you will be aware your son/daughter is working towards their Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Bronze Award.

To attain their certificate they must participate in a two day expedition. Usually the students would attend a two day canoeing/camping training course and then complete an assessed event on different dates. Due to the pandemic and lock down periods we have not been able to complete these visits. However the Duke of Edinburgh have made allowances and amendments to enable participants to participate in an adapted expedition. To enable our students to achieve the Certificate of Achievement we plan to hold an adapted expedition.

Date: Thursday 1– Friday 2 July

Day one:

- Travel to school as usual where they will attend a D of E registration and meeting. All mobile phones will be handed in at this point as this is a DofE rule.
- Travel by school minibus to Bisham Sailing School for a day of Bell boating. *They will need to bring a packed lunch from home.*
- Return to school, erect tents, cook meal, fun activities, camp or sleep in school building.
- For this year only, it is possible for students to return home to sleep but they will need to be picked up from school at 8pm.

Day two:

- Pack away tents and camping gear.
- Cook breakfast
- Students who slept at home return to school on transport as usual and register with DofE group.
- Travel by minibus to Marlow for orienteering activities. Lunch in park. *They will need to bring a packed lunch from home which will kept in the fridge until required.*
- Travel back to school using public transport (they will have planned their route prior to trip).
- Return home via usual school transport. They will need some money to pay for their travel costs.

Students will be working together at school to prepare for the expedition on Thursdays when we return from half term so they are well prepared before the event. At no point will students be out of staff sight. The DofE staff team are very experienced at running expeditions and have had all the necessary training to support students.

Although, we have the luxury this year of allowing students to return home to sleep, where possible we would like as many of them as possible to sleep either in a tent on the school site or in a designated area of the school building. This is where we feel students gain a great sense of self achievement as many of them have never stayed away from home before.

Kit List (Please pack in a backpack or small holdall)

Please keep everything as lightweight as possible.

- At least 2 changes of clothing including underwear
- Hoodie or fleece (the temperature will drop at night)
- Coat / lightweight jacket/ waterproof
- Pyjamas
- Towel Toiletries:- flannel, shower gel, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant,
- Trainers and old pair of shoes which can get wet during sailing (surf shoes are ideal). A pair of slippers or something similar to wear in school during the evening.
- Sleeping bag and blanket, pillow (we can not currently share these due to Covid restrictions so these need to be provided by you. If you do not have a sleeping bag they could bring their quilt.
- Sleeping/roll mat
- Torch and spare batteries (head torches are great).
- Sun hat / peaked caps are best as they also help keep rain off the face.
- Sun lotion (small)
- Small anti-bacterial hand gel
- Tissues
- Plastic water bottles (at least 2 litres)

If you need any support with any of these items please contact myself or Claire, we have some that students can use.

Please can you fill in the reply slip to let us know if your son/daughter can attend.

Yours faithfully

Sharon Astle
Duke of Edinburgh Manager
Email: Sharon.astle@manorgreenschool.co.uk or phone 01628 513800 ext: 2035

Name of participant: _____

My son/daughter will/will not participate in the two day expedition on
Thursday 1 – Friday 2 July.

My son/daughter will

- Return home to sleep, I will collect them from school at 8pm
- Camp at school either in a tent or school building

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