

3rd May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

YEAR 9 DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD BRONZE EXPEDITION INFORMATION

This letter contains all the important dates, times and locations involved in the Expedition section of the award, please make sure you read and make a note of all the information, if you have any questions the best way to get in touch with me is through email cwa@sslp.uk

Year 9 Bronze DofE Dates:

- Friday 9th June 2023 – Expedition Training, first aid training and route card planning (at school, please wear school uniform but please can trousers or leggings be worn as part of the first aid training will be on the floor).
- Thursday 15th June 2023 to Friday 16th June 2023 – practice expedition (at Cannock chase).
- Wednesday 21st June 2023 to Thursday 22nd June 2023 – qualifying expedition – (at Long Mynd).
- Friday 23rd June 2023 – presentations, kit hand back and edofe – (At school periods 1-2).

Please see final page for details of the above the locations, times and frequently asked questions. Due to the number of participants please note there are different start and end locations. Please note it is the responsibility that **parents will need to arrange transport** to and from the expedition.

Please can you complete google forms link giving consent for your child to attend and informing us of any medical information <https://forms.gle/jFyLcFR76NFgijih7>. If there is any more information you need, or you would like to talk to me to discuss anything, please do not hesitate to contact myself on cwa@sslp.uk (please leave a number) or please call the school on 01902 907560.

Looking forward to an exciting day and let's hope for good weather.

Yours faithfully

Charlotte L Ward

Mrs Ward

Duke of Edinburgh Award Co-ordinator and Physical Education

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Year 9 Bronze Expedition Information

Friday 9th June 2023 (In school) - 2hr first aid training, route card planning and expedition training (kit will be issued out for expedition during today so bring a bag to put it in).

Thursday 15th June 2023 to Friday 16th June 2023 – Practice expedition (Cannock Chase)

Please look at the table below for your start time and location.

Please make sure you are being dropped at the correct start location and parents/carers are aware that the end location will be in a different place.

Year 9 Groups	Start Day 1 drop off points	Day 2 collection points
Group 1	9.00am The Birches Valley visitors car park	1.30 approx. Carpark opposite Tackeroo campsite
Group 2	9.20am The Birches Valley visitors car park	1.30 approx. Carpark opposite Tackeroo campsite
Group 3	9.40am The Birches Valley visitors car park	1.30 approx. Carpark opposite Tackeroo campsite
Group 4	10.00am The Birches Valley visitors car park	1.30 approx. Carpark opposite Tackeroo campsite
Group 5	9.00am Carpark opposite Tackeroo campsite	1.30 approx. The Birches Valley visitors car park
Group 6	9.20am Carpark opposite Tackeroo campsite	1.30 approx. The Birches Valley visitors car park
Group 7	9.40am Carpark opposite Tackeroo campsite	1.30 approx. The Birches Valley visitors car park
Group 8	10.00am Carpark opposite Tackeroo campsite	1.30 approx. The Birches Valley visitors car park

Car Park opposite Tackeroo campsite Penkridge Bank Rd, Rugeley WS15 2UA

Birches Valley Forest Centre, Lady Hill, Rugeley WS15 2UQ

Campsite information: Beaudesert Outdoor Activity Centre, Beaudesert Park, Cannock Wood, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 4JJ

Wednesday 21st June 2023 to Thursday 22nd June 2023 Qualifier Expedition (Long Mynd)

Year 9 Groups	Start Day 1 drop off points	Day 2 collection points
Group 1	9.00am The Ragleth Inn car park	2.00pm approx. The Yew Tree car park
Group 2	9.20am The Ragleth Inn car park	2.00pm approx. The Yew Tree car park
Group 3	9.40am The Ragleth Inn car park	2.00pm approx. The Yew Tree car park
Group 4	10.00am The Ragleth Inn car park	2.00pm approx. The Yew Tree car park
Group 5	9.00am The Yew Tree car park	2.00pm approx. The Ragleth Inn car park

Group 6	9.20am The Yew Tree car park	2.00pm approx. The Ragleth Inn car park
Group 7	9.40am The Yew Tree car park	2.00pm approx. The Ragleth Inn car park
Group 8	10.00am The Yew Tree car park	2.00pm approx. The Ragleth Inn car park

The Ragleth inn - Ludlow Road, Little, Stretton SY6 6RB

This pub is located slightly south of Church Stretton. From the M54 take the A49 south. Continue along this road until you hit the Church Stretton traffic lights, continue on the A49 through the traffic lights and take the first minor road on the right, you will go over a small bridge, continue along the road until you come to a T-Junction, turn right onto the B5477. The Inn is located approx 10 metre up this road on the left.

The Yew Tree Pub - Shrewsbury Rd, All Stretton SY6 6HG

This pub is located slightly north of church Stretton. From the M54 take the A49 south. Continue along this road until you see the sign post All Stretton, take the B5477 road located on the right. The pub is located on your right on this path. If you reach the school you have gone too far.

Friday 23rd July 2023 (In school, periods 1-2) - Kit handed back (CLEAN AND DRY), eDofE check and DofE presentation (Please note - presentations will be in students walking groups to one member of staff and not a whole class presentation.

Frequently Asked Questions

What does the programme entail?

The participants will walk planned routes, cook and camp. The training day will enable candidates to have skills and techniques covered to ensure that they are ready for their qualifier expedition. Staff will be walking and training the groups on this day on Navigation, what you need in your bag, how to pack your bag, what food to take, camp craft (tents and tranguia cooking) and emergency procedures. During the practice and qualifying expedition students will be walking the route entirely on their own and staff will supervise from a distance and meet groups at designated check points. They will be walking in groups of between four and seven. They will be carrying all of their own equipment, camping and cooking meals on gas/tranguia stoves. Staff will be camping on the same site. Students can pick their own walking groups to an extent. Once these are organised each student will know the number of there group for drop off times.

Why has it been organised that parents/carers drop off and pick up?

As explained on enrolment parents are responsible for transporting students to the start point and collecting them on completion. This is due to the nature of the expedition and staff needing cars to get to check points, get to remote locations as quickly as possible as well as different start times. It is imperative to arrive at your start time on time to allow your group to get organised and start the navigation process. If students are late this will affect your group start time and you will have to wait till the end. All students can arrive at the beginning start time and be left with staff even though their start time is later. **The pickup time might change due to the nature of the activity, slow walkers and any first aid incidents.**

Can I give a lift to another student?

If you choose to give a lift to a young person you are not legally responsible for you are advised to check your car insurance policy.

What kit will the participant need?

You will need to ensure that your child has all their own personal kit on the list below as well as group kit which is shared between their group. They need to have all these items no matter what the weather so they are prepared for any situation (this is part of a requirement from the DofE award). Please remember when purchasing any equipment to explain to the cashier it is for DofE as most outdoor retailers will give a 10% discount. Kit list on next page.

Please remember you have a DofE discount card you can download on eDofE which should give you discounts off any purchases in most outdoor retail shops

Group kit	Personal Kit
(Split between the walking group) <i>Tent (School will provide)</i> <i>Trangia (School will provide)</i> <i>Maps (School will provide)</i> Compass (minimum 2 per group please decide which students will be purchasing them) Matches in waterproof bag Suntan lotion Bug spray (silver and gold mainly) Camera which is NOT A PHONE (1 per group) Small bottle of washing up liquid At least 1 mobile phone per group which is sealed in a bag and only used in emergency situations.	Appropriate walking clothes, Walking trousers, walking socks, underwear, sports tops, fleeces. Please note: No jeans, breathable tops NOT COTTON ONES, fleeces NOT HOODIES Wear one full set of clothes and at least one full set in their bag, shorts are optional. Walking boots (not trainers, ankle support needed) Waterproof jacket Waterproof trousers 65 litre rucksack with waist belt Food and water (ESSENTIAL at least 2 litres capacity on you) for the day and then refill at campsite. Water bottle with large lids are better to fill up Torch Personal First aid kit Sealed emergency food (your child will know about this after their training) Sleeping bag (ideally 3 seasons or more) Roll matt Cup and plate, fork, knife, and spoon (or spork) Any medication inhalers etc Pen and paper

Please note that participants need to be responsible for their own personal belongings. Therefore, it is suggested that people are sensible with items that are brought with them. It is suggested that expensive items e.g. i-Pads, laptops and expensive phones should not be taken and in any event will be the participants' responsibility.

Can I borrow any school equipment?

Yes you can hire all the identified (SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE) items on the school list above. Any hired equipment will need to be returned clean and dry the day after your qualifying expedition. It is vital that this is done. Please remember that any damaged kit will be investigated with a possible charge given to an individual or group. Failure to pay this may affect you successfully completing the award.

Why do we need to know of any medical information prior to the morning of the trip?

Advance warning is needed of any participants with special medical or other needs to ensure all health and safety considerations have been made. Parents must advise of any relevant medical or other needs on the visit consent form. No participant may join the visit unless this form has been received. If a medical condition should arise after the consent form has been handed in, please let the school know ASAP.

What happens if a student misbehaves during the expedition?

Participants attending this visit will need to have a record of good behaviour and demonstrate that they can obey safety and other rules. Anyone whose behaviour becomes unacceptable after the trip has been booked may be excluded or required to return home early and any expenses incurred will be the responsibility of their parents.

What if I need to get in contact with my child during the trip?

If during the visit an **emergency** arises and you need to contact the staff, please contact the school number on 01902 907560 if out of hours please send an edulink message to Mrs Ward.

Which staff will be attending?

Mrs Ward and a couple of school staff as well the following freelance staff: Robin Cramps, Oliver Bonfield-Jones and Andy Richthofen.