



## Ambition, Altruism, Achievement

Incorporating: Codsall Community High School, Bilbrook CE Middle School & Perton Middle School  
Executive Headteacher: Mr A Harding BA (Hons) NPQH



31 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **YEAR 12 DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD GOLD 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 at [cwa@sslp.uk](mailto:cwa@sslp.uk)

Gold DofE Dates:

- 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023 – First aid training, wilderness camp and route cards (School all day)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023 – Practice Expedition (Snowdonia)
- 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023 – Qualifying Expedition (Snowdonia, Harlech to Barmouth)

Please see final page for details of the above locations, times, kit list and frequently asked questions. Please note that **parents/carers will need to arrange transport** to and from the day expeditions located in Snowdonia, for gold expeditions train tickets to the destination station will need to be purchased. Please be aware that you may be required to request to stop at the destination station, please notify the guard where you would like to get off.

Please copy and paste the link below into your browser to complete the google form giving consent for your child to attend and inform us of any medical information: This link will be sent via an Edulink message as well. **This form needs to be completed before 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023.**

<https://forms.gle/922NbQMUpfBHRueH9>

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 me on [cwa@sslp.uk](mailto:cwa@sslp.uk) (please leave a number) or please call the school on 01902 907560.

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

Yours faithfully,

*Mrs Ward*

Mrs Ward  
Duke of Edinburgh Award Co-ordinator Physical Education and Dance Teacher

## Expedition Information

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023** (In school in room S9) - **2hr First aid training and route card planning, wilderness training and kit issued out for expedition**

**Practice Expedition 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023 – (Snowdonia)**

**Start location 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023** - Pont y Pant train station - arrive by 4pm – Cross the bridge to Lledr House Lledr House, Pont-y-pant, Dolwyddelan LL25 0DQ.

**End location 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023** - Llanrwst Train station – open return is best

Campsite information

Day 1 – Lledr Bunckhouse, Pont Y Pant, Dolwyddelan, Conway, LL25 0DQ

Day 2 – Dolgam Campsite, Capel Curig, Betws - Y- Coed, Snowdonia, LL24 0DS

Day 3 – Dolgam Campsite, Capel Curig, Betws - Y- Coed, Snowdonia, LL24 0DS

Day 4 – Wilderness camp

**Qualifying Expedition 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023 – Qualifying Expedition (Snowdonia Harlech to Barmouth)**

(NOTE: If coming on train it will be cheaper to get an open return to Barmouth and pay for a single from Barmouth to Pensarn)

**Start location 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023** - Pensarn train station (NOT ABERGELE AND PANSARN STATION) - arrive before 4pm

**End Location 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023** - Barmouth Train station - leave around 12pm midday this could be earlier, depending how the walk goes

Campsite information

Day 1 – Childrens Farm Campsite, Llanfair, Harlech, LL46 2 SA

Day 2 – Cae Adda Campsite, Trawsfynydd, Blaenau Ffestiniog, LL41 4TS

Day 3 – Natcol Waterfalls, Cefn Uchaf, Llanbedr, LL45 2PL

Day 4 – Wilderness camp

# Frequent 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 trangia 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/trangia 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 and follow Covid government guidance rules.

## What are the extra Covid precautions in place?

A negative Covid test will be needed before the expedition from all students and staff to ensure the safety of the expedition. If any students develop Covid symptoms during the expedition, parents/carers will be contacted to collect the students as soon as possible and follow Covid stay at home government guidance. Any students who were in close contact with that student will also have to isolate and be collected from the expedition.

## 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 your 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>	Appropriate walking clothes (Not jeans) One full set for wearing and at least one full set in their bag. Walking boots (not trainers, ankle support needed) Waterproof jacket Waterproof trousers 65 litre rucksack with waist belt

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)  At least 1 mobile phone per group which is sealed in a bag and only used in emergency situations.	Food and water (ESSENTIAL at least 2 litres) for the day and then refill at campsite Torch Personal First aid kit Sealed emergency food (your child will know about this after their training) Sleeping bag (ideally 3 seasons) Roll matt Cup and plate, fork, knife, and spoon (or spork) Any medication inhalers etc Pen and paper
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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 call Mrs Ward the school number on 01902 907560 who will be able to get in touch with Mrs Ward or send an edulink message.

#### **Which staff will be attending?**

In addition to the visit leader the following staff will also be accompanying the visit: Olivier Bonfield-Jones and Robin Camps.