

Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying Expedition – Wednesday 8th - Thursday 9th July 26

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am writing to update you with regards to the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award that your child is completing. At this stage all students should have signed in to eDofE and should be well on their way to completing their Volunteering, Physical, and Skills sections.

Our qualifying expedition is scheduled to happen on Wednesday 8th July to Thursday 9th July 2026. We will be departing from school promptly at 8:30am and the students will be taken by coach to Newlands Corner. We will therefore need the students to arrive at school by 7:45am for a briefing and kit check before boarding the coach. Students will be completing a full day of walking on Wednesday and Thursday, before returning to school for 5.15pm Thursday evening.

Although we hope our students will conduct themselves sensibly, we have high expectations of their behaviour within the Duke of Edinburgh programme, in addition respectful behaviour falls under the expedition requirements that must be fulfilled in order to pass the expedition section. Should your child display dangerous or disrespectful behaviour we reserve the right to remove them from the expedition and would require you to collect them as soon as possible.

We have attached a kit list on the final page. Please ensure that the students have a minimum of 1 litre of water, sufficient food for dinner/breakfast x 1 and lunch x 2, plus sufficient and appropriate snacks/lunch to keep their energy levels up. **Please no nuts of any description.**

If your child is registered with us as asthmatic or an EpiPen user we will need to check that they have their inhaler/EpiPen with them before allowing them to take part. If your child no longer needs their inhaler/EpiPen and you believe they are still registered with us as needing these, please can you contact the main reception at your earliest convenience.

We look forward to the expedition, and are hoping for good weather. If you have any queries please get in touch with the team via dukeofedinburgh@bohuntwokingham.com

Yours Faithfully,

Wendy Whearity

Head of Outdoor Education - Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award Leader

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DofE advised kit list

Maximum size of a 3 man tent, to share with others in their groups. (No pop up tents are allowed!). We do have a small stock of tents to borrow.
Warm sleeping bag (Season 3 recommended)
Roll mat
Torch with spare batteries
1 pair of walking boots (worn in)
Compass (school can also lend out but have limited stock)
2 pairs of walking socks
A 'wicking' t-shirt for example: Crag hoppers: Fusion and Vitalise for each day (school PE tops will work nicely)
Walking trousers (NOT jeans, tracksuits or shorts)
Warm hat &/or sunhat (as appropriate) - waterproof over-trousers
Jacket/coat (waterproof & windproof) or a waterproof s
Rucksack (at least 60L)
Rucksack liner (or strong plastic bags these can be good quality bin liners or rubble sacks) to waterproof the belongings
Personal first aid kit (plasters, blister kits etc)
2 x water bottles (1 litre capacity minimum per bottle)
Sunblock
1 pair gloves (if appropriate)
Toothbrush and toothpaste

<u>Cooking/eating utensils</u>	Knife, fork, spoon or spork	Plate/bowl & mug
Matches in a waterproof bag	Washing up sponge/cloth	Flannel or something to dry the washing up with

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Food requirements - Please provide a packed lunch for two days, plus extra snacks for the expedition. Students will also need dinner for 1 day and breakfast for 1 day. We strongly recommend boil in the bag or dehydrated packet meals (available from most supermarkets and outdoors stores) that you can just add boiling water (no pot noodles please). Alternatively, students may choose to cook within their groups, i.e. one brings pasta, one brings sauce, one brings toppings. Heavy tinned food is not appropriate to carry in rucksacks all day.

Medication, including inhalers and EpiPens, must be shown to the group leader before leaving school.

2 phones per group in a waterproof bag (**TURNED OFF**)!

Please download the What3Words app before coming into school.

The school will provide the Trangia stoves and gas for students to cook with. All kit that is lent out by the school will be logged and we expect it to be returned in the same condition it was lent out.

Please be aware that parents will become liable for any missing or broken kit, so please encourage students to take care of it.

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