



4 April 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition, Saturday 11 May - Sunday 12 May

I am writing in respect of the forthcoming practice expedition organised for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh students on the above dates. Please read the itinerary below and expectations for the trip in May.

Itinerary

Day 1, Saturday 11 May: Training day and pre-expedition walk

10.00am Arrive at Pleshey Village Hall, Back Lane, Pleshey, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 1HJ

Students complete their pre-planned walks with staff.

5.30pm Arrive at Skreens Park, Roxwell for overnight stay.

Students to set up tents/cook dinner/de-brief.

10.00pm Lights out in tents.

Food Requirements: Groups to provide lunch, dinner, breakfast, snacks and drinks. Students have their food planners for this and have been advised on selection of food.

Day 2, Sunday 12 May: Groups to walk independently along a pre-planned route meeting staff at specific check points along the way

6.30am Students begin to pack their tents and belongings alongside cooking breakfast.

8.00am Groups begin their independent walks within their groups.

3.00pm Parents to pick up from: Viper public house car park, Mill Green Road, Mill Green, Ingatestone, Essex CM4 0PT

Students will need the following:

- A large rucksack (55-70 litres) packed according to the attached kit list. The school does have a small number of rucksacks to lend if students are struggling to obtain one.
- Tents and Trangias (for cooking) will be distributed to students in the equipment distribution session after school on Tuesday 7 May. Equipment will need to be split between group members and included in their packing for the expedition.
- Planned meals/2 litres of water. Students are required to cook two meals (dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday).
- Appropriate footwear (not trainers) that will be effective in poor conditions. Walking boots are best for ankle support, however walking shoes are permitted.

Students are required to carry everything they pack in their rucksacks so careful consideration must be taken over what they decide to bring. During the expedition, students will not be allowed to use their mobile phones and will be provided with school phones for emergencies, and to contact teachers at each checkpoint; you will be given the assigned school mobile number should you need to make contact.

Students have had all the arrangements outlined to them in the after school sessions and should be clear on the expectations and requirements of the practice expedition. The 20 conditions set out by the DofE program can be accessed online for further clarification. Students should be on track to complete their skill, volunteering and physical sections before the assessment expedition in June. If you have any further questions or concerns then please do not hesitate to contact me at rbias@st-martins.essex.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Bias
Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Co-ordinator