



17 January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Participants

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S SILVER AWARD – EXPEDITIONS AND EXPEDITION TRAINING

Ahead of the Silver Qualifying Expedition in June, Silver Award candidates will need to attend a Practice Expedition in April, as well as training sessions. All training sessions are a compulsory part of the Award. If there is any problem with any of the training dates, then contact Mrs Thomson, Mrs James or Mrs Godbee as soon as possible. Our expeditions are provided by ICY Expeditions.

Training Sessions: Saturday 25 January and Sunday 26 January 2020

Due to the size of this year's cohort, we have decided to halve the group and train them separately over the two days as follows:

Saturday 25 January

Groups 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11: 8.30am-3.45pm - Training at Ashridge to cover orienteering, camp craft and emergency procedures.

Groups 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12: 8.30am-2.30pm - Training at School to cover cooking on a trangia and mapping.

Sunday 26 January

Groups 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11: 8.30am-2.30pm - Training at School to cover cooking on a trangia and mapping

Groups 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12: 8.30am-3.45pm - Training at Ashridge to cover orienteering, camp craft and emergency procedures

The current Group list attached. All students are to meet in the Sixth Form Common Room at 8.30am promptly on both days to sign in.

For the training at School, students will be expected to plan and cook a two-course meal, in their groups, on a trangia stove (provided by school). Please refer to the food planning section in your Training Logs for ideas. **Please bring in a plate/bowl, cutlery, a tea towel and Brillo Pad to wash up your trangia.**

For the training at Ashridge, students should wear appropriate warm and waterproof clothing including a hat, gloves and walking boots/sturdy shoes. They should also bring a **packed lunch and a drink and a pen/pencil and notepad**. The coach will depart school at 8.45am sharp and return to school at 3.45pm.

Please arrange to pick up your son/daughter at the relevant time.

Practice Expedition: Tuesday 7 April to Thursday 9 April 2020

This will be located in the Chilterns, with a start/finish point at Ashridge, near Little Gaddesden (north of Berkhamsted). We are not able to provide transport to/from the start/finish, so will be relying on parents to offer lifts, and hope that this does not cause too many problems.

We will start at Ashridge Visitors Centre, Moneybury Hill, Ringshall, Near Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, HP4 1LX (OS Grid Ref: 181:SP970131) between 8.00am-10.00am and finish at the same place around 2.00pm-4.00pm on the Thursday. Directions and more details will be sent out nearer the time.



The students will be in teams of between 4 and 7 and will be accompanied by an adult on the first day and at various points throughout the expedition to continue their training in map reading and navigation. They will have to carry their camping equipment and cook their evening meals.

They will be camping at Green Park at Aston Clinton and at Braid Wood Scout Camp. These campsites have basic facilities and drinking water. Supervisors will also be camping overnight.

Qualifying Expedition: Friday 26 June – Monday 29 June 2020

The Qualifying Expedition will be held in the White Peak area of the Peak District. We will be leaving Roundwood Park School at 4.00pm and intend to transport the teams by coach. We will spend Friday night at Hartington Youth Hostel on a B&B basis. In doing this, we will have enough time to get all 12 groups off and walking in good time on Saturday morning. We hope to be back in Harpenden before 8.00pm on Monday evening, traffic permitting.

Supervisors will be camping too and the teams will be supervised "remotely" on this expedition by us and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Assessor. Full details will follow in due course.

Expedition Costs

The expedition costs are now payable. The total cost of all the expeditions and training at Silver is approximately £370 - £400, depending on final numbers.

Deposit:

£50 by Friday 31st January 2020

Interim payment 1:

£129 by Friday 29th Feb 2020

Interim payment 2:

£ tbc [approx £121] due by Friday 24th April 2020

Final:

£ tbc [approx £100] due by Friday 22nd May 2020

The total price covers training materials and handouts; camping fees for two 3-day 2-night expeditions and support costs (eg cooking fuel, equipment hire/wear and tear, as well as travel to and from the camp site for the Qualifying expedition). We will also be providing two Ordnance Survey maps per team per expedition which are theirs to keep.

For the expeditions, the young person would need to have a pair of walking boots or sturdy shoes but we can provide tents, rucksacks, sleeping mats, cooking stoves, map cases and may have other miscellaneous items. Please fill in the attached form to indicate whether your child has these items or wishes to borrow them. These will be allocated on a **first come first served** basis. If you do not fill this out correctly, we may not be able to supply you with the kit you need. Any damaged or lost items will need to be replaced at your expense. Other kit such as sleeping bags and waterproofs can often be borrowed from friends and family to keep the cost of the expeditions from becoming too onerous. We do not want the cost of expeditions to put anyone off, so if you feel you cannot afford it, please come and see one of the team in confidence, or send an email to arrange a meeting with one of us.

We now require a non-refundable deposit of **£50**, which can be paid either online via ParentPay or by cheque made payable to "Roundwood Park School" (please write on the back of the cheque the student's name, form and 'Silver Expeditions 2020 deposit'). Please complete the attached Equipment form and return it by **31st January 2020** (with the cheque payment if appropriate) to the Finance Office in an envelope clearly marked "Duke of Edinburgh's Award".

Please ensure that you respond to this letter on CareMonkey and that your son/daughter's CareMonkey profile is up to date.

In cases of financial hardship, please contact Miss Manton in writing (finance@roundwoodpark.co.uk) no later than Monday 27th January. The school can apply to a local charity on your behalf for financial assistance, so long as the charities financial criteria are met.



General

As with any trip we have high expectations of good student behaviour and respect for others, including other campsite users and walkers and, if previous Silver expeditions are anything to go by, we are confident that they will be a credit to everyone. However, I would like to bring it to your attention that smoking and alcohol are not allowed. Students engaging in practical jokes, making excessive noise, leaving the campsite untidy or other antisocial behaviour may not complete their expedition on this occasion. Moreover, if your son/daughter enters the tent of the opposite sex after lights out, we will call you to come and collect them, whatever the hour.

We reserve the right to deny your child a place on the expeditions if they have not completed at least **two** of their other sections on the eDofE website. Please speak to your child about where they have got to with their Volunteering, Skills and Volunteering activities within their eDofE accounts.

Please note that if your son/daughter secures a place but then decides to withdraw from the trip, you must notify us immediately in writing as you will be liable for any cancellation costs incurred. The school reserves the right to withdraw from the trip any student whose behavioural record at school proves inconsistent with the safe running of the trip.

There will be an information evening for parents and participants on **Tuesday 17 March 2020** where we will provide you with more details on the arrangements for the Practice Expedition and distribute kit.

In the meantime, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read 'C Godbee'.

C Godbee
DofE Co-ordinator

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read 'J. Thomson'.

J Thomson
Expedition Supervisor

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read 'L James'.

L James
Expedition Supervisor



ROUNDWOOD PARK SCHOOL

2019/2020 SILVER DofE GROUPS – TRAINING WEEKEND

Group 1 George Binns Kira Gash Maddie Hoddinott Luca Humphreys Ben Peacock Hollie Smith	Group 2 Jenny Mills Sophie Psaila Gemma Stapleton Katie Stapleton Hannah Tearle
Group 3 Nikhil Mehra Tomide Sanwo Luca Vicente Aidan Williams	Group 4 Thomas Anthony-Smith Rosa Baker Oliver Bhutiani Edgar Burns Alastair Holmes Millie Shelton
Group 5 Noah Bates Tyler Birkwood George Peirson Emily Piepglass Euan Turner Eve Waterhouse	Group 6 Oliver Dallow Jacob Davies Charlie Edney Sam Franklin James Gurr Sam Lea James Orchard



Group 7 Louise Akroyd Adam Feasey Owen John Jeremy Laine Rosie Marigliani Bruno Moura	Group 8 Lucy Andrews Hannah Blight Katy Cameron Emma Carney Katie Hiscott Sara Khan Amy Snaith
Group 9 Beatrice Claxton Lauren Darby Molly Grout Katie Keddy	Group 10 Dan Bromley Max Davis Elias Jaffer Tom Lowry Dominic Remmers Alex Velody
Group 11 Jake Ball Harry Bayne Ellie Bignell Chloe Carbonero Jack Edwards Milan Patel	Group 12 Bethan Mackney Becky Norman Alicia Northcott Megan Webb Jennifer Wright



EQUIPMENT

My son/daughter _____ wishes to borrow/
will provide the following:

GROUP NUMBER _____

Item	Please tick as appropriate	
	Wishes to borrow from RPS	Will bring own <i>(please ensure it is fit for purpose)</i>
Tent <i>(2 or 3 man and state who sharing with)</i>		
Rucksack (65 litres recommended but not less than 55 litres)		
Cooking Trangia <i>(between 2 or 3 and state who cooking with)</i>		
Gas Canister and attachment		
Sleeping roll mats		
Survival bags		

I confirm that I will replace any lost or damaged items that my son/daughter borrowed from Roundwood Park School.

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer)

Date: _____