8 June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

**Silver Qualifying Expedition: Saturday 17 July to Monday 19 July 2021**

We have been liaising with Sixth Form as to when Year 12 would be available to go on their Silver Qualifying Expedition. The dates that will cause least disruption are Saturday 17 July to Monday 19 July 2021. This will be the only Silver Qualifying Expedition that we will run for this year group alone.

**Travel and campsites**

Unless there are changes to the current COVID regulations, the expedition will take place in the White Peak area of the Peak District, Derbyshire.

The coach will leave school at **6.00am** on **Saturday 17 July**. We would ask that you do not park in the turning circle, but instead use the car parks at the back of the school. If anyone is late, then the whole expedition will be delayed as everyone is travelling together. If your son/daughter is ill and has to drop out, then please let us know on the day and re-distribute the kit amongst other team members. If this is not possible, then please contact Mrs Godbee on 07949 084595.

Please ensure your child has a small amount of money to purchase some food as we will stop off at a service station en route for some breakfast.

The teams will finish mid-afternoon on Monday 19 July. We anticipate that they will arrive back in Harpenden at about 7.00pm-8.00pm, but this may vary depending on how the last day progresses.

In the event that the government advises that groups are not allowed to camp together, we will look to make alternative arrangements locally.

**Groups**

Once we have confirmation as to who is able to attend, we can organise groups accordingly and arrange a date and time to distribute kit.

Students will then need to liaise with their fellow group members to organise food and equipment in good time. Groups will also need to ensure that they have completed their routes and route cards by **Friday 9 July** at the very latest.

**Prepared for the weather…**

The weather is never predictable! It is therefore very important that the young people have waterproof jackets and **boots**. If students turn up in trainers or walking shoes, they will be turned away. They may wish to have waterproof trousers or gaiters too. We have stressed to them the need to check that these items are actually waterproof and re-treat them if necessary.

They must also ensure that their clothes, sleeping bags and anything else that will spoil if soaked are in dry sacks or plastic bags. Otherwise a thick bag like a rubble sack or rucksack liner will be fine (please note that standard bin bags do let the water in). If they have their sleeping mat on the outside of their rucksack, then these must also be in bags.

Sun cream and sunhats are essential if sun is forecast. They also have to carry a warm hat and gloves and should ensure that they have a warm top to wear in camp and at night as it can get very cold, even in summer.

**Kit**

Hired kit needs to be returned in September but exact dates and times will be confirmed at the beginning of term. As stated in our previous letter, wear and tear of kit is expected however we will require reimbursement for any damaged, lost or broken kit.

**Cost**

**The cost of this trip will be of £219.00 per student, which is due no later than 4th July 2021.** We apologise for the short notice. We do not want the cost of expeditions to put anyone off, so if you feel this may be a problem, please contact Miss Manton in the finance office in confidence, by emailing finance@roundwoodpark.co.uk.

**Contact numbers**

Whilst on expedition, we can be contacted in an emergency on the following number:

R Wilson 07813 702982

Please do not call us to check if the young people are ok – do not worry; we will call you if there is a problem. Your son/daughter’s team will carry mobile phones but these will be switched off for use in an emergency only, so do not expect a call from them either.

**General**

As with any trip we have high expectations of good behaviour and respect for others, including other campsite users and walkers and farm owners. However, we would like to include a reminder that smoking, drugs and alcohol are not allowed. Young people engaging in practical jokes, making excessive noise, leaving campsites untidy or other antisocial behaviour may not complete their expedition. Moreover, if your son/daughter enters the tent of the opposite sex after lights out, they will not be allowed to complete their Expedition and we will ask you to come and collect them.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us by phone on 01582 765344 or email.

Kind regards

 

**J Thomson L James**

**Expedition Supervisor Expedition Supervisor**

Email: j.thomson@roundwoodpark.co.uk Email:l.james@roundwoodpark.co.uk