



Gold Practice Expedition – Tregaron, Wales

Information Evening – 28th February

We have organised an online information evening for Year 12 (28th February 6-7pm) for parents/carers and participants to go through the details of the Practice Expedition. There will be some information, but plenty of chance to ask questions to Rhydian and Mr Desborough about the expeditions. The participants have already met with Mr Desborough and received information via Google Classroom about equipment.

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BbYczdaJQMWfw1h8tk1g7w

The webinar access code is : 115602

Night Walk

A reminder we will be going on a night walk as part of the expedition training. A separate letter has been provided with full information. A kit list has been put on Google Classroom for the teams.

Practice Expedition – Monday 8th to Friday 12th April 2024

Kit

We will discuss this on the evening and provide a guide from ICY expeditions (attached). All must be bought in advance and shown to Mr Desborough at the night walk or before the practice expedition.

Participants need to have a pair of walking boots but we/ICY will provide tents, rucksacks, sleeping mats, cooking stoves, map cases and may have other miscellaneous items. 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 will be using ICY tents and Trangias to make the space in the minibus bigger for the long journey.

The DofE kit list can be found at: <https://www.dofe.org/shopping/dofe-expedition-kit-list/>

Your child will need an individual first aid kit containing blister plasters, plasters, any prescription medication, Paracetamol or Ibuprofen - unless allergic, 2-3 individually wrapped antiseptic wipes and tissues.

Travel

We will travel in the school minibus to a bunkhouse for the first evening. The journey will be approx. 4h30 mins on the road with two rest stops, one longer for lunch. We will have space for expedition kit plus another small bag for clothes for non expedition days. We will discuss this in a session with the participants. Travel back will include a dinner stop and a shorter rest.

Timings

We will be leaving on the morning of the 8th April, with time to be confirmed. This will allow us to arrive in Wales in the afternoon for the team to meet with the ICY staff and prepare for the following day.

We will return when the last group reach the finish point and have received a debrief. This means we will be back late in the evening of the 12th April. We will ensure participants can call home to confirm an approximate arrival time once we leave. They will also be asked to update parents as we make progress on the journey.

The Practice Expedition

The teams will be trained in walking in 'Wild Country' with all the skills needed to progress to the standard required for navigation and safety in this environment. There will be more information on this at the meeting. They will walk for 4 days and 3 nights will be under canvas.

Payment

The cost for the nightwalk in March and the practice expedition is £400 per participant and this should be paid via Parentpay. Please pay a deposit of £ 200 by Friday 1st March and the remaining £ 200 by 1st April. Please also submit your permission on Operoo no later than 26th February. If payment is a problem for you, please contact Miss Manton in the finance office (c.manton@roundwoodpark.co.uk) who can set up a payment plan if required. We do not want cost to be a barrier. We work closely with the James Marshall Foundation who can provide funding for students with a low family income, living in Harpenden, Wheathampstead, Kimpton, Redbourn, Flamstead and Markyate. You can apply online for a funding grant by clicking [HERE](#).

The total price covers our expedition providers costs, camping fees for expedition, minibus travel, support costs and we will also be providing two Ordnance Survey maps per team.

General

Please speak to your child about progress with their Volunteering, Skills and Physical 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.

Best regards,

M Desborough
Expedition Supervisor

LA Wallis
DofE Coordinator