



Bishop Wordsworth's School

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Head Master: Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

17 May 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Scheme Qualifying Expedition – Marlborough Downs **Saturday 16–Sunday 17 June 2018**

Plans are now complete for your son's assessed expedition around the Marlborough Downs on Saturday 16 - Sunday 17 June 2018. Can you please ask and check that your son has updated his edofe account and gets all of his evidence uploaded for approval; it is very important that he now adds his group aims and goals for the expedition section and is prepared for a group presentation at the camp site on Saturday evening.

Please ensure no ipods (or similar), and all mobile phones are to be sealed for use in emergencies only; please stress this to your son as this can cause a groups **immediate** failure. In the unlikely event that a group needs to contact the Safety Supervisor of the Expedition we strongly advise participants not to contact anybody personally as this can create unnecessary hysteria and clog up phone lines and battery life which may be required for incident management. The H5 contact during the assessed expedition is 01793 731 068.

There will be no transport provided in either direction therefore all participants will be expected to make their own way to the car park North of Marlborough on the A346 towards Swindon: one mile after passing Marlborough Golf Club, in the car park (Grid Reference 188 707, SN8 1RZ), on the left hand side, the same drop off as the practice. Teams 1 to 7 please arrive at 0830 and teams 8 and above should arrive for 0930.

There will be a full kit check of equipment before any teams are allowed to start their qualifying expedition. Failure to bring equipment may result in boys not being allowed to participate. Your son will again be expected to be self-sufficient for the two days with suitable snacks, drinks, lunch and something suitable to cook for the Saturday evening on a Trangia. Teams will camp overnight at the Lakeside Campsite (Grid Reference 074 789). Students are not permitted to leave the campsite overnight. Your son must bring his D of E 'Keeping Track' booklet for completion of the qualifying expedition section by the assessor. Mr Paul Webb of H5 Adventure will be the lead for the weekend and will be supported by volunteer members of BWS staff, parents and myself.

On Sunday morning teams will be allowed to proceed when the assessor is satisfied with the state of the campsite and that all team members remain properly equipped. Teams will need to have provisions for Sunday breakfast, snacks, lunch and drinks. Depending on pace and efficiency departing the campsite the groups should aim to finish around 1400-1500 at the Barbury Castle Country Park Car Park, (Grid Reference 158 761), postal code SN4 0QH on Sunday 17 June.

The cost of the expedition is £74.00. The price includes, school insurance, (a copy of which is available on the school website), use of equipment, campsite fees, supervision leader and

expedition assessor services. I will inform the students when to collect tents and trangias. Again the tents need to be returned **dry** and complete and the trangias **clean**.

Please ensure that we have current emergency contact information and details of any medical conditions and that your son takes all necessary medication with him on this expedition. These details can now be checked through the Insight Parent Portal, otherwise please contact Mrs Sarah Hayward on sah@bws.wilts.sch.uk to update your son's information.

Payment to be made on-line via www.scopay.com by Tuesday 5 June 2018.

If you need a link code please email amh@bws.wilts.sch.uk; for further information on DofE, please contact Mrs Nute on amn@bws.wilts.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mr J M Oldham
DofE Co-Ordinator