

Year 11 Silver Award

May 2023



Practice Expedition Feedback

Overall we were really pleased with the achievements, behaviour and resilience of the students on the expedition in March. There are a few issues that we would like to address before the Assessed Expedition takes place:

- Most students packed their rucksack well and they were the appropriate mass. Students (not parents) should pack their own rucksack and keep the mass to a minimum (it should be no more than a $\frac{1}{4}$ of their own body mass - use bathroom scales to check).
- The assessed expedition could be very hot and students lose a lot of fluid in the heat and with physical exertion. They need to be carrying and drinking at least 2 litres of water per day, then more at the campsite that evening to avoid dehydration, nausea and headaches.
- Roll mats/Thermarests can be fastened on the outside of their rucksack but must be in a black bin liner (even if it says the bag is waterproof). Nothing else should be on the outside of their rucksack.
- All students in an expedition group must work together to support each other at all times. This means sharing kit equally and walking together closely as a group at all times.
- Students are not permitted to bring a mobile phone on expedition (apart from the one member of each group designated to have one for emergencies). Under no circumstances should students use a mobile phone to contact parents directly without communicating with us first - we are responsible for students on the trip and need to assess the situation first and ensure parents do not unduly worry or are misinformed.

Silver Assessed Expedition Saturday 24th - Monday 26th June

Students will be required to arrive at school no later than 8am on entering the green gate (Parents are not permitted to come in with them) and gathering in the atrium with their group for kit checks.

We will travel to the expedition area by coach/minibus, camp for TWO nights and return to school at approximately 5:30pm on Monday 26th June.

The campsites we will be staying at are:

24th June: Hamperley Camping SY6 6PT (01694 781441)

25th June: Womerton Farm SY6 6LJ (01694 751260)

In case of emergency, please contact the DofE mobiles first and if there is no answer contact the campsite if necessary.

Use of eDofE

There are a significant number of students that have not logged onto eDofE or submitted activities for initial approval. This officially means they are not insured or authorized by us to begin activities (even if they have already started them). All students must urgently submit all of their activities for initial approval otherwise we may decide to not take them on the Assessed Expedition. Please encourage your son/daughter to keep their eDofE account up to date - it is the only way we can track what they are doing!

Going for Gold?

Year 11 students wishing to do their Gold Award are required to finish their Silver Award first before submitting a Gold enrolment form (<https://arthurterry.bham.sch.uk/students/duke-of-edinburgh/enrol-now/>). These will be accepted from September when confirmed they are remaining here in Year 12, although activities and enrolment dates may be able to be backdated so that anything started in July could count. Students not returning in Year 12 can contact us in September by email to express interest in Gold and we can check whether this is possible.

DofE Emergency Mobile Numbers

07506 705597 or 07928 159529

Mr Withey & Miss Wilson

dofe@arthurterry.bham.sch.uk