

Bronze Award Newsletter March 2020



Coronavirus

Please see the reminders below about this Saturday and next Tuesday. At this point these events are going ahead as planned. Any changes to this will be communicated via group call.

Completion deadline

Thank you to students who have worked hard to meet the completion deadline, and to parents in their support of this. Students are now in a strong position to complete the Award - just the expedition section to go!

Unfortunately, we have spent a large proportion of time dealing with issues for over 20 students in the last fortnight. Students need reminding (although it is too late unless they want to do Silver) that it is their responsibility to check eDofE, come and speak to us and ensure their own evidence is approved by checking themselves and rectifying any issues queried online. Students know who we are, where we are and we have an email address and website if they are unsure of what to do.

Many centres would not do the chasing of students that we have done and it is quite an unreasonable thing to expect from us. As a result we have had to change some requirements for the Award for next year. This includes an earlier deadline, no more remote assessment and required use of the new eDofE app on mobile phones for students to manage their own account.

Expedition Training

Compulsory expedition training is on Saturday 14th March from 9am until 3pm at school in the science department (D2-floor).

Students must ensure that they are here on time, bring their pencil case and should also bring a packed lunch with them - students will not be permitted to leave the school site over lunchtime. We will be indoors for most of the day but will spend some of the time outside so student should wear suitable casual clothes.

Expedition consent forms will be issued on this day and electronic copies are also available on our website. Can we request that these are returned to reception as soon as possible?

We only allow expedition groups of 6 or 7 students (no bigger or smaller) so it is advisable that students discuss this with their friends and come together knowing who they want to be in a group with. Those not organized into a group will be put into teams by staff.

Practice Expedition - 2nd-3rd May 2020

The Bronze practice expedition always requires parents to drop off students at the start point and collect them at the finish point (All other expeditions are by coach journey from school). We will provide further details nearer the time but please find the start and end points below for reference (timings will be staggered for groups). The car parks can be busy so please arrange car sharing where possible.

SATURDAY DROP-OFF: Nimmings Wood Car Park, near Clent DY9 9JR

SUNDAY PICK-UP: Sandy Lane/Gipsy Lane junction, near Kinver DY11 5XT

Equipment Evening

We have arranged for staff from Go Outdoors to come and showcase some of the equipment required to purchase for expeditions. This is an opportunity for both students and parents to gain advice on what kit is suitable and the range of options available with a range of prices. Purchases will not be able to be made on the night, but discount offers will be outlined.

Tuesday 17th March 2020 - 6:00-7:30pm - School Hall

Assessed Expedition - DATE CHANGE

Due to campsite availability we have had to change the date of the assessed expedition this year to:

6th - 7th June 2020

Dates and Deadlines

Saturday 14th March 2020 - Bronze Expedition Training (9am – 3pm) D2-Floor

Tuesday 17th March 2020 - Equipment Information Evening (6pm-7:30pm)

2nd -3rd May 2020 - Bronze Practice Expedition

Tuesday 5th May 2020 – Bronze Assessed Expedition Planning 1 (3:15-6:00pm)

Tuesday 12th May 2020 – Bronze Assessed Expedition Planning 2 (3:15-6:00pm)

6th – 7th June 2020 - Bronze Assessment Expedition

The DofE Team