

Year 11 Silver Award

February 2023



General information

Following our recent meeting, we wanted to contact you about upcoming dates, expectations, and future plans. All students have an eDofE account that can be accessed through the internet but there is also an easy-to-use eDofE app for mobile phones that we suggest you download and use.

Students should have already entered the details of each activity they are doing (Volunteering, Physical, Skill) and submitted for approval from us (don't save it as a draft and choose either Mr Withey or Miss Wilson as your leader). Then they are insured to carry out each activity. Please ensure the start date of each activity is accurate, even if it is backdated. The assessor must not be a family member and if we have agreed to assess them 'remotely' they will need to upload plenty of evidence to help us write your final assessor report. **Some students are yet to submit their activities for approval - please do this as soon as possible.**

Completing each section

There is no requirement to upload any evidence to eDofE apart from an assessor report (unless Mr Withey or Miss Wilson are remotely assessing them). Once the 3 or 6 months of activity is completed, the assessor needs to write a report. There are 2 ways they can do this:

- Completing an online form at this website: <https://www.dofe.org/assessor/>. The assessor only needs the eDofE number to do this. The dates are entered automatically, and it will be sent to us to put onto your eDofE account. **This is the easiest way to get each section completed!**
- Give the assessor report card from the Welcome Pack to the assessor to complete a written report. You must make sure that the dates match what is on eDofE and that the report is signed and dated after the end date of the activity. Then students will need to take a clear picture of the report card and upload this to eDofE marking it as the assessor report. Not doing this correctly takes up quite a lot of our time so please make sure you get this right.

Silver Assessed Expedition Planning Thursday 22nd February (3:15-5pm)
OR Wednesday 28th February (2:30am-4:30pm)

Expedition planning is a compulsory part of the expedition section for all participants and takes place at Arthur Terry on B2-floor (IT department) on the two dates shown above. ALL students in an expedition group must attend or the whole group will be turned away. We have given students the option of two evenings to pick one that suits all members of the group.

Keep reading....

Expeditions: Essential information/reminders

- Students should pack their own bag so that they know where all of their kit is.
- Nothing should be outside of their rucksack except for a roll mat wrapped in a tough black bag to keep it dry. Everything inside should be wrapped in black bags to keep everything dry, especially clothes and their sleeping bag.
- Students will be given an expedition manual on the training day that has all the information they need (how to pack a bag, suitable food and emergency rations to bring, our emergency mobile numbers on the front, first aid kit requirements etc.). They should bring this with them on expeditions. Student who have already completed their Bronze Award can find a copy on our website.
- Mobile phones are strictly forbidden on expeditions with the exception of one 'emergency mobile' per expedition group which remains turned off throughout the weekend unless there is an emergency.
- Please ensure you are on time as the whole group cannot leave by coach until everyone is here!

All students must have:

- Suitable clothing (Students will need to wear clothes suitable for walking). Jeans are not permitted. A waterproof coat (and preferably waterproof trousers are also required)
- **For Silver, you must have a pair of proper walking boots!**
- Toiletries
- A Compass
- Large rucksack
- Sleeping bag and sleeping mat.

Each expedition group will also need:

- Tents of suitable size that the group can sleep in along with their rucksacks (double-skinned)
- Cooking stoves for the group (Trangia or resealable gas burning stoves - please check before purchasing these to check if they are suitable, or you can hire one from us instead)

Further information about equipment can also be found on our website:

<https://arthurterry.bham.sch.uk/students/duke-of-edinburgh/expeditions-equipment/>.

We are able to loan certain equipment if necessary and students will need to see Miss Wilson in C3.8 with their request and payment before Easter. Details of kit hire can be found here:

<https://arthurterry.bham.sch.uk/students/duke-of-edinburgh/kit-hire/>

Silver Assessed Expedition Saturday 22nd - Monday 24th June

This date is now confirmed and is after the GCSE exams. Students will be required to arrive at school no later than 8am on Saturday 22nd June 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, camp overnight and return to school at approximately 5:30pm on Monday 24th June. Further details of the campsite and how to contact us during the expedition will be issued closer to the weekend.

There are a small number of students that cannot attend this weekend so they will be invited to join our Gold expedition with some of their peers. We will contact parents/carers about this separately.

We hope you are excited about the next few months. The whole staff team are really looking forward to working with you.

Mr Withey & Miss Wilson

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