



“Be Inspired & Achieve Together”

13th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: DofE Bronze Qualifying Expedition Opportunity, 18th - 19th September 2021

Firstly, thank you for your patience and support as we try and navigate through these testing times. As you can imagine the effect of self-isolations both on our volunteer team and the students has made planning expeditions with any certainty difficult, and has already resulted in two planned expeditions having to be cancelled. We have though successfully managed to complete the Silver award for our year 11 participants, and remain committed to providing all those at Bronze with a similar opportunity.

After overcoming some last-minute staffing availability issues, I can confirm the expedition planned to take place this weekend (the dates were communicated at the end of the summer term) will go ahead. May I remind you that those participants who are also cadets will complete their Bronze qualifying expedition whilst on the CCF field weekend planned for 25th and 26th September.

I am holding a training session for participants on this expedition after school on Thursday 16th September, at 15:25pm in room A201. The session will last for approximately one hour. We will dust off the cobwebs from previous training and get everyone ready for the weekend.

The expedition will consist of two separate day walks starting from, and returning to, Arnold Hill. Participants will need to meet at the community centre car park each day as this is the start point of each planned walk. All participants will need to be at the start at 8:00am. They will finish each day at around 16:00pm back at Arnold Hill.

Dates and Times Summary:

Thursday 16th September 2021 – Training and Pre-Expedition check in A201 (15:25pm to 16:30pm)

Saturday 18th September 2021 – Expedition Day 1 at AHSA Turning Circle (8:00am to 16:00pm)

Sunday 19th September 2021 – Expedition Day 2 at AHSA Turning Circle (8:00am to 16:00pm)

Equipment

Participants need to be seen to be self-sufficient for the entire walk (both days) so will need the equipment with them for each day of the walk, including on the first day a hot meal pack that will be cooked at the end of the walk.

A day walking back pack large enough to hold the items below (we have some in stores that we can issue on loan if needed)

- Waterproofs (jacket and trousers)
- Spare warm jumper/fleece, spare socks, spare t-shirt
- Personal first aid kit
- Torch and whistle
- Pack lunch and snacks for the walk
- A boil in the bag type hot meal to prepare and eat for the end of day one (e.g. Wayfayerer) and cutlery to eat it with.
- Water bottle(s) to carry at least 1ltr (water will be available during the walk if top ups are needed)
- Sunscreen

Participants should carry any medication as needed - supervisors cannot be responsible for carrying or administering medication.

Sleeping bags, mats, tents, stoves, gas and cooking pans will not be required. We will supply these where needed.

If there are questions about the information contained here please feel free to contact me. For those that still need to complete the other sections of their Bronze Award please log in to the eDofE site/app and keep the records and any assessor reports up to date.

It is essential that we have accurate and up to date contact and medical information for all of our participants. If your child would like to participate in the expedition, please complete the expedition consent and information form by **9am on Friday 17th September 2021** using this link:

<https://forms.gle/zBKQTMhU4A48AJSM6>

This will allow us to facilitate staffing and grouping. We will endeavour to keep group members together wherever possible. Any participant without a completed consent form cannot attend the expedition.

Group Email Contact: AHSAbronzedofe@arnoldhillacademy.co.uk

Yours faithfully

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