



“Be Inspired & Achieve Together”

21st April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: DofE Bronze Expedition Update

Thank you for your patience and help with organising and monitoring the participants' work towards the completion of the Bronze award. Please continue to remind students to keep their eDofE record up to date and that any assessor reports or evidence can be uploaded there too. Assessors can complete the paper copy reports from the welcome pack which can be uploaded as evidence, or directly enter their reports into eDofE by going to this website and entering the participants DofE number (<https://www.dofe.org/assessor/>).

We are pleased to let you know that after a successful bid to a local charity we have secured enough funding to completely cover the expedition costs for this cohort of Bronze, and because of this you will be receiving a refund for part of the monies paid at the start of the DofE. A total of £75 will be credited back to you; this is being processed by our finance team currently. We would like to thank Arnold Parochial Charities for their kind donation and their support for DofE here at Arnold Hill Spencer Academy.

The 1st expedition training session will be held on Tuesday 26th April 2022 in school. Students will go to A Block Hall after breaktime. They will have lunch, guidance and break as normal. During lessons 3, 4 and 5 they will work with some of our volunteers to cover some key preparation for the expedition. The second training session will take place on Wednesday 27th April immediately after school until 4:15pm. There will also be a third training session delivered prior to the groups departing on their expedition on Saturday 14th May.

The expedition will be based from Arnold Hill Spencer Academy and the areas surrounding the school as the students should walk in areas that are familiar to them for the Bronze Award. We will use the school grounds and Sixth Form block for the overnight camp.

The expedition will take place from the Arnold Hill Sixth Form Centre and students should arrive with all equipment by 9:30am on Saturday 14th May. They will finish their expedition here also on Sunday 15th May (approx. 3-4pm). Travel to and collection from the Academy will need to be arranged by home. Participants need to carry all kit while on their walk with details of the kit needed below. Please make use of the DofE discount card which is accepted at GoOutdoors in Arnold and can be downloaded from the eDofE site.

Each participant will need the following personal kit as we hold no stocks:

- A pair of sturdy comfortable shoes or boots with good grip that provide support (no converse style trainers or boots) and walking socks.
- A small first aid kit to include blister plasters for treating minor cuts or grazes.
- A sleeping bag and roll mat (2 season minimum).
- Cutlery (e.g. Spork).
- Food for the duration of the expedition (1 breakfast, 2 lunches to be eaten while out walking and one hot meal prepared in camp plus any snacks). More info about food will be given to students during their first training session but I recommend boil in the bag expedition food for example <https://www.wayfayrer.co.uk/>.

- Clothes for day walking and to change into (dry set/sleeping) (to include an extra fleece style layer for warmth if needed).
- Waterproof jacket and bottoms in case of bad weather.
- A rucksack to put in all kit (including their share of the tent) we suggest a minimum of 55-65ltr.
- Wash kit/hygiene kit.
- Suitable bottle (1ltr) for water/drinks plus if planning hot drinks with meals a suitable container to drink this from.

We will provide the following kit:

- Group tents
- Stoves, fuel and cooking tins
- Compass
- Maps and map cases
- Group first aid kit

We hold limited stocks of the following that are available for loan if needed but this must be communicated to us in the first in school training session to ensure we are able to supply all that are needed:

- Rucksack
- Roll mat

Students can attend a drop in session during guidance every Monday and Tuesday in A215 if they have any questions or need help with eDofE.

It is essential that we have accurate and up to date contact and medical information for all of our participants. Please complete the consent and information form by **Sunday 1st May 2022** using this link:

<https://forms.gle/yTwS7ihCezXu29HY6>

Any participant without a completed consent form will be unable to attend the expedition.

Please also make a note of this emergency contact telephone number for you to reach the team in an emergency while the expedition is running: 07715 961442.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Craze
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 Arnold Hill Spencer Academy
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