

Our ref: KSH/RKR

28 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Saturday 26 April – Sunday 27 April 2025

As part of the award criteria for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh, students must take part in an expedition. We are therefore delighted to confirm that your child has been invited to take part in an expedition visit to the Peak District. The expedition will take place on Saturday 26 April 2025 with an overnight stay at the Barn Farm campsite in Birchover DE4 2BL. During the visit students will be both walking and camping in the Peak District using vital skills such as map reading, countryside code and teamwork. By attending this visit, students will access an exceptional learning experience.

Students are required to meet at Sir Thomas Wharton Academy on Saturday 26 April 2025 at 8:15 am and will leave the academy at 8:30 am, returning to the Academy on Sunday 27 April 2025 at approximately 5:30 pm.

Parent/carers must make arrangements to collect the student from the academy on Sunday 27 April 2025.

Fieldwork experiences are an important part of the Duke of Edinburgh curriculum and allow students to experience specific skills beyond the classroom in a way that we cannot recreate within the academy; as such, we require all students to attend.

Due to the nature of the Peak District and potential changes in weather, students will not need to be in full school uniform. However, clothing and footwear worn must be comfortable and appropriate for the outdoors. Students will be unable to purchase food due to the Duke of Edinburgh guidelines.

The use of phones for navigation could result in disqualification. Students will be asked to store their phones in their bags at all times unless required for an emergency. It is also imperative that all students download the 'what three words' app to their phones so that they can be located in the event of an emergency.

Students will need to bring the below equipment and resources on the expedition:

Walking boots

Waterproof coat

Change of clothes – plenty of layers as it may be cold on both days and throughout the night

Packed lunch for the Saturday

Evening meal that can be carried and then cooked by students on arrival of the camp site e.g. pasta, sauce, tuna, peperami (enough for lunch on the Sunday). Students have planned this during lessons.

Food that is high in calories e.g. breakfast bars, flapjacks, nuts and cereal bars

Food that is high in protein

Breakfast meal e.g. porridge

Snacks for both days

Plenty of water for both days – 4 litres (2 litres a day)

Suncream

Sleeping bag

Plastic crockery and cutlery to eat with (including plastic tupperware to put left over evening meal in for lunch on Sunday). This should be light weight.



The following equipment will be provided by the academy, however, student may wish to bring their own:
Tents
Walking rucksack
Trangia and gas to cook evening meal
Maps

Itinerary (this may be subject to change)

Saturday 26 April 2025

8:15 am- Arrival at Sir Thomas Wharton Academy
8:30 am- Depart the Academy
9:30 am- Arrival at the Peak District
9:40 am- Walk commences
12:40 am - Lunch time
3:30 pm (approx)- Arrival at the campsite
4:30 pm-9pm- Setting up camp, cooking evening meal, settling down

Sunday 27 April 2025

7:00 am – Breakfast preparation
8:00 am - Walk commences
12:00 am - Early Lunch
2:00 pm- Arrival at the finishing destination
3:00 pm – Group departure
3:30 pm – Group rewards Lunch on return journey
5:30 pm- Arrival back at Sir Thomas Wharton Academy

Students will be observed using remote supervision by academy staff during the expedition, staff will be positioned at certain check points along the routes on both days and there will be a trained first aider present as part of this supervision at all times.

Students will be briefed ahead of the visit with the meeting points, times and details on how to contact a member of academy staff in the event of an emergency.

Students have been split into two different groups – BLUE group and AMARANTH group. Please access the links below to view the specific group routes for each day.

[Blue Group DofE Day 1](#)

[Blue Group DofE Day 2](#)

[Amaranth Group DofE Day 1](#)

[Amaranth Group DofE Day 2](#)

Please provide consent and medical information by accessing the form here:
<https://forms.office.com/e/j8EJQkVxbp>

For further information regarding the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh, this can be found here: [DofE - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award](#)

If you have any other queries, please email k.shaw@stwacademy.com.

Yours sincerely

Miss K Shaw

