

December 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

Your son/daughter is working towards achieving their Duke of Edinburgh's Award with Lymm High School and will be undertaking the expedition section of the award with us. The section comprises three different events: (1) Pre-expedition Training, (2) a Training Expedition and (3) a Qualifying Expedition.

The first of these events will take the form of a training day at school on one of the following dates:

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Year 9 Bronze students with surnames A - H**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Year 9 Bronze students with surnames I - Z**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January – Year 10 Silver, Year 10 Bronze and Year 12 Gold students**

On their allocated day, students should get their mark for registration from their form tutor and then make their way to the English yard for 8:30am where they will meet their instructor and begin the training day. The pre-expedition training day is designed to help inform and prepare students for their first training expedition.

Get Outside the Classroom staff will work on a carousel with groups of students, rotating around a series of workshops covering; First Aid, kit selection, packing a rucksack, pitching tents, food, stove use and basic navigation.

Students need to come dressed and prepared to be outside all day (it would be a good idea for them to have a set of waterproofs with them and warm clothes are essential), please ensure they check the weather forecast and dress appropriately. They will need to bring a packed lunch, pen, outdoor mug (plastic or metal) and a drink all in a small rucksack/bag – **students will not have access to the school canteen** as they will be out all day to be able to fit everything in before the end of the school day. Students are likely to need a hat, gloves and a warm coat. Footwear should be suitable for a muddy field, e.g. walking shoes/boots or old trainers. If your child is eligible for Free School Meals and they would like a packed lunch, please let Student Services know by Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

During the stove session, students will have the opportunity to make a hot chocolate (which will be provided) using the mug they need to bring with them. If they wish to, they can also bring in a pot noodle snack or similar which is made with the addition of hot water.

The aim is that all students will leave the day able to make good informed decisions about what to bring on their expedition, will have familiarised themselves with some of the equipment they will use, and therefore be more confident with the challenge ahead.

GOtC staff will be following relevant government guidance regarding COVID and where possible will remain socially distanced. Students should continue to follow school protocols in place at the time. Hand washing remains important throughout and we would recommend that students carry a small bottle of sanitiser. If you are unsure as to the current government guidelines please check the following website <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Many thanks for your support and we look forward to meeting the students in the New Year.

Kind regards,



Mark Harnden  
Director, Get Outside the Classroom

