

Dear Parent / Guardian

As part of their Duke of Edinburgh's Award your son/daughter will be attending the expedition detailed overleaf. Please carefully note the information for times, locations, maps, and directions. Whilst we have made every effort to supply you with the most accurate postcode we could find, systems can vary, and the remote nature of some locations may mean that your Satnav may not take you directly to 'the doorstep'.

Please keep meeting and finish points as safe as possible by; **arriving at the allocated time**, sharing lifts where possible, signing in on arrival and out on departure and being prepared to **'drop and go'**.

Unless other specific arrangements have been made, you can expect any equipment being borrowed to be available on arrival. Please seek assistance from *GOtC* staff if required. We are always here to help.

Every expedition is unique making it difficult to be precise with an exact finish time. All participants are asked to phone home (where/when reception allows) during their last morning to inform you of their anticipated finishing time. However, if you do not hear from them, please aim for the **mid-point** of the expected 'window' shown overleaf.

During training expeditions *GOtC* staff will be walking directly with groups in the early stages focusing on teaching navigation. As the skills and confidence of the group progresses supervision will become more remote. This will then become more akin to qualifying expeditions where techniques such as observation, check-pointing and trailing are employed, as appropriate to monitor all participants.

As part of their preparations for this expedition participants have been given training and/or printed information on kit, food, clothing, etc. We recommend that, at least **one week** prior to the expedition, parents and participants revisit this information which can be found from a variety of sources, including our own website. **It is essential that each participant brings a waterproof jacket and waterproof trousers as an additional layer that can be put on over their clothes for every expedition.**

Whilst England has removed it's COVID guidelines, if the expedition is taking place in Wales, please ensure you check the up to date guidance here <https://gov.wales/coronavirus> Hand washing remains important throughout and we would recommend that students carry a small bottle of sanitiser. We have planned for events to be delivered with camping as part of the expeditions. Each campsite will have their own protocols or restrictions in place and participants will be briefed on these on their arrival.

If there is an emergency and you need to contact your son/daughter during the expedition, please use the phone number listed at the top of this letter. This will automatically divert to a member of the team in the field.

Thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

Kind regards,



Director
Get Outside the Classroom