

# Bronze expedition – Parents' evening

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CHURCHILL ACADEMY  
& SIXTH FORM

# A few reminders

Please ensure that you are completing the other sections of your Duke of Edinburgh award.












# A few reminders

Please ensure you are filling out your sections on [edofe.org](https://edofe.org) or on the mobile app.

If your eDofe account looks like this...

Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
			

# A few reminders

 14 Jan 2026	 08 Nov 2025	
		
	 11 Dec 2025	

# A few reminders

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Although you have until your 25th birthday to complete DofE we would like it signed off before then.

It does not need to all be completed before the expedition but you should be underway across all the areas.

Check that you have submitted your programme planner for approval and that it is not sat as a 'draft'.

Should be doing approx 1 hour per week for each section (does not have to be all at once)

# A few reminders

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## Assessor reports

This is the final stage of each section - and the part most commonly forgotten.

After you have completed a section you must get your assessor to upload a report at

<https://www.dofe.org/run/assessors-report>

(They will need your edofe number)

They need to confirm that you have done what you said you were going to do.

Cannot be a family member.

# Expedition Dates

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Bronze practice 1: 02/06/26 - 03/06/26

Bronze practice 2: 04/06/26 - 05/06/26

Bronze assessed 1: 09/07/26 - 10/07/26

Bronze assessed 2: 16/07/26 - 17/07/26

# Times & Location – Bronze Practice

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- Quantocks
- Camping at Moorhouse Farm campsite - there are toilets and washing up facilities - no showers
- Drop off – 7am in school
- Pick up – Approx 4pm from school (wait for phone call from your child)

# Times & Location – Bronze Assessed

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- Mendips
- Camping at Scadden's Farm in Rodney Stoke - there are toilets and washing up facilities - no showers
- Drop off – 7am in school
- Pick up – Approx 4pm in school (wait for phone call from your child)

# Kit

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Kit we can lend out: (form in Google classroom)

- Rucksack
- Sleeping mat
- Sleeping bag
- Small selection of water proofs

We will also provide for each group to carry:

- Tents (2-3 students per tent)
- Trangia (stove)
- Maps, route cards & compass

# Kit

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Kit lists are available tonight and will be on the Academy website.

**Essential** - walking/hiking boots & waterproofs.  
(please don't be wearing your boots for the 1st time on expedition - guaranteed blisters!)

Common sense approach - we're only away for 1 night.

You will be carrying what you bring...as well as tent & stove

# Kit

## Things to consider:

- Suncream
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- No Jeans.
- Crocs or trainers to wear around camp.
- Toothbrush!

We don't want there to be any barriers to your child completing DofE so if you need anything email us ([dofe@churchill-academy.org](mailto:dofe@churchill-academy.org)) and we'll see what we can do.

# Kit

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More info on kit:

<https://www.dofe.org/shop/expedition-kit-main/>

# Rucksack fitting and packing

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If you are borrowing a rucksack please bring all of your kit in a bag/suitcase and we will transfer it on the morning of the expedition (60 litres)

## Fitting:

1. Position waist strap over hip bone and do up tightly
2. Check angle of strap between shoulder and bag
3. Take the bag off and adjust the back system so this angle is horizontal
4. Put on again and tighten straps – adjust till comfortable

## Packing:

Common sense. Heavy by your back. Sleeping bag in bottom. Things needed quickly nearer outside. Use several dry bags rather than one.

# Menu Planning



Students must bring enough to fuel their expedition:

Packed lunch for day 1.

Evening meal for day 1. (Wayfarer etc)

Breakfast for day 2.

Lunch for day 2.

Snacks - but no nuts.



nb. It is not recommended to try and survive on Haribo alone.

# Stay hydrated

Students **must** bring a water bottle.



We will have water butts to refill bottles at all checkpoints.

Water bladders are fine but don't feel like you need to rush out and buy one.



If the weather is extremely hot we will schedule more water refill points.

# Trips Code of Conduct

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In order to ensure a safe and successful trip for all, we expect students to behave in an acceptable and responsible manner. Students are representing themselves and the Academy and expectations in relation to behaviour are the same as if they were in school.

Students will:

- Abide by the Student Code of Conduct and Behaviour Policy, as if they were in school;
- Listen to and obey instructions and rules from members of staff and centre personnel;
- Behave in a sensible, courteous and respectful manner;
- Remain always in groups of no less than three and adhere to times given for return to a meeting point;
- Be responsible for their personal possessions and respect each other's belongings;
- Respect the rights of others to enjoy their trip.

# Trips Code of Conduct

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## Residential trips

- Listen to all guidance given in relation to fire drills and emergency exits at the place of accommodation, and for all modes of transport;
- Be punctual at all times;
- Attend all activities, unless medically excused;
- Remain in their allocated rooms or tent after curfew each evening;
- Be encouraged to speak to the staff present regarding any difficulties they experience on the trip (rather than calling parents/carers).

# Trips Code of Conduct

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Students will not:

- Behave in such ways as to endanger others;
- Smoke, drink or buy alcohol;
- Bring, purchase, have in their possession, or consume any illegal substances;
- Bring, purchase or have in their possession any offensive weapon.
- Use mobile phones or personal devices without the express permission of a teacher (unless specific guidelines are issued by trip leaders on an individual basis and as required by the particular circumstances of the trip);
- Use social media without the express permission of a teacher (unless specific guidelines are issued by trip leaders on an individual basis and as required by a particular circumstances of the trip). Should an incident occur students should not post on social media or contact anyone prior to the school making relevant parties aware (so that parents/carers of any students involved are informed by staff rather than hearing about the incident through other channels.
- Wear inappropriate or offensive clothing;
- Enter other student's rooms or tents without permission;
- Bring, purchase or have in their possession any explosive material or anything which could cause fire.

# Trips Code of Conduct

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## Sanctions:

Appropriate consequences for failing to meet the requirements as to conduct will be decided by the group leader. These could be exclusion from activities, loss of evening activities, earlier curfew, constant supervision or in extreme cases the student may be returned home either accompanied by an adult or to be collected by a parent/carer (in each case at the cost of parents/carers).

In addition, the Academy may take further action following the trip, including removing students from forthcoming trips (with the loss of any money that has already been paid for the forthcoming trips).

Parents/carers may also be required to meet the cost of any loss or damage caused by a student which is not covered by the Academy's insurance.

# Safeguarding

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Keeping your children safe:

- Students must not go into each other's tents - **especially** boys and girls
- Please check for alcohol, vapes, cigarettes etc.
- If there are any wellbeing concerns please update the school e.g. medication, eating

# Mobile phones

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- Expeditions must be self-sufficient - this means no mobile phones.
- One mobile phone per team to be carried, switched off and in a tamper-proof bag for safety
- Phones will be handed in at the start of the expedition, kept safe and handed back at the end - you will then be contacted with an eta for arrival back at school.

# Safety

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There is an inherent risk when doing any expedition

To minimise this risk, we have in place:

- Participant training – making sensible choices
- Basic first aid & first aid kits
- Medical equipment checks – Inhaler/epipen
- Emergency mobile phone/SPOT trackers 1 per group.
- Staff ratios
- Staff experience and training
- Staffed checkpoints
- Vehicles
- DofE approved assessors (assessed exped.)

# Training

Before the expedition, please watch all of the videos on Google Classroom - we will recap map skills and give practical training during the expedition.

- Rucksack packing
- Rucksack fitting
- Navigation (inc. using a compass)
- Safe use of a stove
- Pitching tents perfectly

## Training Day - Videos



Module 1 - Maps



Module 2 - Map Reading



Module 3 - Grid References



Module 4 - Distances, timings, contour lines...



Module 5 - Route planning



Module 6 - What kit you need and how to pa...



Module 7 - Campcraft



Module 8 - Food



Module 9 - Using a compass



Module 10 - First Aid

# Team Goal:

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All expeditions have a goal.

Examples for Bronze might include:

Sketch some of the insects you spot and find out what they are.

Do a fun team game or challenge each day to promote team building.

Photograph and describe interesting old buildings along your route.

Use your expedition experience to write a piece of literature

Keep a log of the weather and how the group responded

Be creative - google/youtube for ideas!

# Maps and Route cards

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We will provide maps with the route drawn on and route cards on the morning of the expedition.

Maps will be available on Google classroom for children to look at prior to the expedition.

# Summary

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- \*Medical records – update if needed
- \*Pay via parentpay
- \*Google Classroom - watch training videos
- \*Expedition goal
- \*Kit - own rucksack or bring to expedition in a bag ready to pack into a school backpack
- \*Food
- \*Go for some walks – wear in boots, practise navigation

Any questions?