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March 2017

Dear Parent/Carer (and Duke of Edinburgh participant)

We are delighted to confirm that your child's Duke of Edinburgh expedition training will go ahead at the school this coming weekend, on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

This weekend will include your child camping at the school overnight. The start time is **9am on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2017**, and they will be departing from the school at **5pm on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017**.

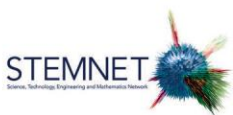
During this weekend, they will be taking part in a range of training and practice sessions in preparation for their expeditions in May and July.

They will be required to bring the necessary equipment, kit, and food to take part in these sessions and to stay overnight on the school grounds.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Sturdy (preferably waterproof) walking boots
- A change of comfortable trainers for indoor sessions
- Clothing that can be layered up
- Jacket (preferably waterproof)
- Tent (currently the students will be allowed to share tents among groups of friends of the same gender so there are no size limitations – as long as they are capable of erecting and packing up the tent without any support)
- Sleeping bag, mat (advisable), clothes to sleep in, toothbrush etc
- Sufficient food for the whole weekend, and cutlery/plates etc
- Notebook and pen
- Compass (preferable to have their own as they are a necessity for the expedition)
- Rucksack (if they already have one or can borrow one – we do not recommend that they *buy* a rucksack until we have discussed the options for kit with them during the weekend. There will be no problem if they bring their equipment this weekend in standard sport or weekend bags.)

The DofE participants have already been given their eDofE login, and can access an interactive kit list online at <https://kit.dofeshopping.org/>. However, they will not need to bring all this equipment to the school weekend session as we will not be leaving the school grounds.





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We would also like to remind parents and participants alike that this kit/equipment list for DofE is adaptable and many items can be borrowed or replaced with cheaper alternatives. We are not suggesting any trips to outdoors stores etc until after this weekend's training - when students will have a better idea of the equipment necessities. The exceptions to this rule are sturdy walking shoes/boots, and a compass, which we hope each student will have with them this weekend.

Final note: The dates for the practice expedition remain set for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> May, but the expedition assessment dates are now confirmed as **8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July**. This is the weekend directly following the year 10 exam dates set by the school to avoid the expedition preparation and planning from distracting students from necessary revision for these important exams.

We will use the emergency contact details we have on our database for your child for this weekend. If however, the contact details will be different, please fill in the details on the slip below and return the slip as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Mrs R Rawsthorne and Mr F Langford  
**Duke of Edinburgh Award Coordinators**

To: Mrs R Rawsthorne and Mr F Langford

**Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Training – 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

Name of student ..... Form .....

Emergency contact telephone number .....

Emergency contact name (please print) .....

Parent/Carer (please sign) .....

Parent/Carer (please print) .....

Date .....

