



Tibshelf Community School
Doe Hill Lane
Tibshelf
Alfreton
DE55 5LZ

Date: 22nd January 2025

Re: Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Information

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to inform you about an important meeting that has been scheduled for the students participating in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. As parents, your support and involvement in your child's journey towards achieving this prestigious award are crucial.

Student Meeting

The meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday, 24th January, at the start of lunchtime in AR1. It is essential that all students attend this meeting as we will be discussing important details and providing guidance on the three sections that students must complete to successfully achieve the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award.

DofE Sections

As you may be aware, the three sections that students must complete are: volunteering, physical activities, and skills development. We understand that coming up with suitable ideas for these sections can be challenging, so we would like to provide you with some suggestions to assist your child in selecting appropriate activities. Students need to upload the details of these sections on the eDofE portal. I would recommend they download the eDofE app to do this!

For the volunteering section, students could consider helping out at local charities, community centres, or animal shelters; students can also use sports leadership such as coaching. For physical activities, they could participate in sports, join a gym, or take up hiking. Finally, for skills development, students could explore learning new languages, musical instruments, or even engaging in arts and crafts, baking or cooking! For each section they must have an assessor, who will sign off their evidence. This cannot be a family member!

You can find further ideas and information by following the below link:

<https://www.dofe.org/do/ideas/>

Headteacher: Lucie Wainwright

01773 872391

www.tibshelf.derbyshire.sch.uk

info@tibshelf.derbyshire.sch.uk





DofE Expedition

Students will also take part in a practice and qualifying expedition. The details of the expedition are below. I would recommend that students start to develop their fitness by going on longer, hilly walks with a heavy rucksack as we build up to the expedition. I have also attached a kit list so students can start getting their expedition kit together. Please note that school will provide the following equipment:

- Tent
- Trangia (includes cooking pans)
- Fuel
- Map
- Compass
- Group Emergency Storm Shelter
- Group First Aid Kit

Practice Expedition Details (Saturday 7th June 2025)

To ensure students are ready to be supervised remotely in the Peak District, students must also take part on a practice expedition. This will be directly supervised by staff and will take place on **Saturday 7th June**.

Students will need to arrive at Tibshelf School at **08:30** with all of their expedition kit, including some food to cook when they arrive back to school. Students will then complete a walk towards Hardwick Hall before returning to school at approximately **15:00**. Students will then need to be picked up from school.

Please note the practice expedition is only one day, and students will not be camping (they are still required to carry all equipment).

The aim of the practice expedition is to give students the opportunity to put their navigational and campcraft skills into practice before the qualifying expedition.

Qualifying Expedition Details (Thursday 26th June – Friday 27th June 2025)

This expedition walk is an 'assessed' walk; for these, all groups will be unaccompanied and checked periodically throughout the day at 'checkpoints' by members of staff. At other times during the day, they will be supervised from a distance through remote supervision. Students will have received training around navigation so they can safely make their way following a pre-planned route. As part of the expedition, students must be self-sufficient, carrying all of their supplies and then camp overnight. Students will be camping at Heatherhill Campsite in Bamford. Further details around the expedition will be given closer to the time.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Gamwell.

Teacher of Physical Education and Head of Vocational Studies

Email: d.gamwell@tibshelf.derbyshire.sch.uk

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