

TON/TDY

14th March 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: D of E Gold Practice Expedition

I am writing to inform you of the forthcoming D of E Gold practice expedition and training.

Unfortunately this year I have found myself with some challenges in the organisation of this, these being: -

1. NSB Mountain Leaders unable to attend.
2. Dates of the AS examination and the additional block of the A Level Linear Mock examination.

Therefore, in order to maintain this award programme, I am inviting an approved activity provider (AAP) to run the expedition section. Wild Country Consultants are approved by the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and are endorsed on the official website.

What will this mean for your son/daughter?

The only differences are the cost (slightly more) and the training. The company obviously cannot complete this over several lunchtime sessions, so it will involve the provider and students attending NSB one day over a weekend. During this time, the provider will cover the following: -

Kit, Food, Ruck Sack packing, First Aid and Navigation skills, plus all route cards will be completed on the day with the green forms (Application Form to the Wild Country Panel).

The date for this training will be **Sunday 8th May, 9am until 4pm in classroom F8** at school (entrance via Main Reception) and all students must attend. If any students fail to attend, then unfortunately they will not be able to take part in the practice expedition in the Brecon Beacons on 16th June 2016.

The practice expedition will be leaving on Thursday 16th June, after school, and returning on Monday 20th. The time of arrival back will be dependent on the success of the practice expedition and is likely to be late evening.

The final expedition will be in July 2017, date to be confirmed. In addition, students will have to attend another weekend training session, again on a date to be confirmed.

The price of £250 includes the training expedition weekend, transport to and from, accommodation (which is Bed & Breakfast), tent hire and stove hire (Trangia).

A deposit of **£50** is due by 25th March, with following payments of **£100** by 25th April and **£100** by 25th May 2016.

Please complete the reply slip below and return to the Finance Office together with the deposit. Please also complete the enclosed Medical Consent/Information Form for the weekend of 16th June.

Yours faithfully



Mrs T O'Neill
D of E Coordinator



Please return reply slip to Mrs T O'Neill by Friday 25th March together with the completed Residential Consent/Information Form.

I/We* have received the letter regarding the Gold Expedition and wish my son/daughter* to take part. Having read the information, I/We* agree to him/her* taking part in the activities described. I/We* understand that £50 of this cost is a non-refundable deposit paid by **Friday 25th March 2016** and 2 further payments of £100 are due by **25th April and 25th May 2016**.

My/Our* son/daughter* will/will not* be able to attend the weekend training session on **Sunday 8th May from 9am until 4pm. (Please indicate)**

Name of student: _____ **Form:** _____

Name of Parent/Guardian (please print): _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ **Date:** _____

(*Delete as necessary)