



Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls

April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Bronze DofE Expedition

Many of our Year 10 students are well on their way with completing their volunteering, physical and skills sections and are working towards their DofE Certificate of Achievement. In order to gain the full DofE Bronze Award, it is necessary to complete the expedition section too. We are delighted to be able to inform you that the Duke of Edinburgh expedition will be going ahead this year and will be based fully on the school grounds.

The long-lasting effects of the pandemic have made delivering the 'traditional' expedition challenging. Following the Department for Education guidance and using the DofE with-a-difference campaign this has allowed the flexibility for the training and expedition to go ahead with the exclusion of any overnight camping and can be fully completed in the safety of the school grounds.

We have devised a programme for students to be able to enjoy the challenges that encompass the DofE key principles and would encourage all Year 10s who are registered for the Bronze award to take part. The aim of the expedition is to inspire the young people to develop initiative and a spirit of adventure and discovery, by planning, training for and completing a range of challenging activities as part of a team.

We will be running in school training on Tuesday 15th June 2021. This will involve:

- Team building and planning their aim
- Basic first aid training
- Kit and nutrition
- Map & compass reading
- Expectations for the expedition

The Expedition will run on Friday 2nd & Saturday 3rd July 2021. Participants are required to complete a minimum of 6 hours planned activities and an additional cooking activity.

The activities will involve:

- Scavenger hunt
- Geocaching
- Escape room
- Orienteering
- Three Peaks Challenge
- Team building challenges
- Cooking and meal using a Trangia (training will be provided for this and it will be fully supervised)

Headteacher: Dr Barbara Minards

Jockey Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B73 5PT

tel: 0121 354 1479 | fax: 0121 354 9418 | email: enquiry@suttcold.bham.sch.uk | web: www.suttcold.bham.sch.uk

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There is no special equipment that needs to be purchased. There will be no need to buy walking boots or a large rucksack for this expedition. We really hope in this significant year celebrating the legacy of the Duke of Edinburgh and the award he created, that many of our students will choose to take part in this year's #DofEWithADifference.

The cost for this year's modified expedition will be £40.

The preferred method of payment is via our online system. For online payments, please ensure the consent box has been ticked. Cheques are still accepted however we are unable to accept cash. Cheques should be made payable to 'Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls'. If you are paying by cheque; are entitled to Free School Meals or are applying for financial assistance, please return the reply slip in a sealed envelope with your daughter's name, form and labelled 'Duke of Edinburgh Expedition' and hand it into the Business Office. The deadline for payments is Friday 14th May 2021.

All contributions are on a voluntary basis, however if there are insufficient funds to cover the cost of these activities, they will not be able to go ahead. Students in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) will be exempt from payment and financial assistance forms are available from the Business Office for consideration of other financial support. Where students usually have spare medication kept in school, they should have their medication with them while on a school trip (eg inhaler, epipen etc).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me

Yours faithfully

Mrs Kate Tunstall (DofE Coordinator)



Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Friday 2nd & Saturday 3rd July 2021

NB reply slip not needed for online payments. Please ensure online consent box has been ticked

I give permission for _____ in Form _____ to participate in the above expedition and (please tick as appropriate):-

I enclose a cheque for £40

I enclose a financial assistance form

My daughter is in receipt of FSM

Parent/Carer Name: _____ Signed: _____ Date: _____

Reply slip to be returned to the Business Office by Friday 14th May 2021

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