



RED HOUSE SCHOOL

a foundation for life

24 March 2017

Dear Parents

Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition

Pupils involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Award will be taking part in their practice expedition over the weekend of 22/23 April. The expedition will be in the Barnard Castle area, and all groups will be camping at Barnard Castle Camp Site, near Lartington. Although the pupils will not be accompanied by members of staff as they walk, they will be closely monitored over the weekend through observation and meeting at regular checkpoints. There will also be a staff presence on the campsite overnight. All pupils are covered by the School's insurance policy and a full risk assessment has been undertaken by Mr Heaton, the group leader. A number of the accompanying staff are first aid qualified and will be carrying first aid kits. Pupils will be transported by school minibus which has the requisite insurance.

We endeavour to take photographs on as many school trips as possible. Please visit our website, Facebook and Twitter pages to view a selection of photographs.

Pupils should arrive at School by 8am on Saturday morning, and we aim to return to School by 4pm on Sunday afternoon. If the return time is going to be dramatically different, we will encourage your children to contact you with the revised timing.

Please complete attached sheet to give your consent and also to advise if there has been any change to your child's medical information since the practice walk in October. I would be grateful if you could return this by **Thursday 30 March**. I have also included a copy of the kit list, both for your information and in case your child has misplaced their earlier copy.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that the dates for this year's final expedition are 10/11 July. Please let us know, as soon as possible, if your child is unable to attend. In addition, one of the requirements of the Award qualifying expedition is that pupils need to plan, train for and complete an unaccompanied self-reliant expedition. This will involve pupils working out their own starting points and starting times and organising transport to get them to the appropriate place at the appropriate time. This usually means parents dropping groups off and picking them up again when the expedition is complete. I hope that by giving you enough notice you will be able to make the required arrangements.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the expedition or any other aspect of the Award.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Williamson

36 The Green Norton Stockton on Tees TS20 1DX
T: 01642 553370 F: 01642 361031 W: www.redhouseschool.co.uk

Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition

Name..... Form.....

I give consent for my son/ daughter to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award practice expedition on 22/23 April

There has/ has not been any changes to their medical information since the practice walk in October.

Please give details of any changes

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Signed (parent/ guardian).....

Red House School Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Equipment

CLOTHING

Walking boots
Trainers
Socks
Underwear
Trousers
Shirts/ tops
Sweaters/ fleece tops
Hat
Gloves
Waterproof jacket (breathable type recommended)
Waterproof over trousers

PERSONAL CAMPING EQUIPMENT

Rucksack (approx. 65 litre capacity)
Sleeping bag
Sleeping mat
Soap and towel
Toothbrush
Toilet paper
Mug and plate(s)
Knife, fork and spoon
Food (as detailed on menu)
Water bottle (**make sure it does not leak!!**)
Sun tan lotion

PERSONAL EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

Map (school will provide)
Watch
Compass and whistle
Emergency food (something like 3 Mars bars or similar)
Matches or lighter
Torch with spare batteries and bulb
Survival bag/ space blanket
Spare clothes
Tin opener
First aid kit
Paper and pencil (in a plastic bag to keep it dry)
1 mobile telephone per group

GROUP CAMPING EQUIPMENT

Tent (school will provide)
Trangia (school will provide)
Gas (school will provide)
Washing up liquid
Sponge/ scourer pad
Cloth/ old tea towel

