

12 June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

**Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Qualifying Expedition, Wendover Woods Picnic Area
Thursday 2 to Friday 3 July 2026**

Postcode for Satnav: HP22 5NQ

What3Words: Football.Awoke.Angry

This expedition is the final requirement for students to achieve their Bronze Award and so attendance is compulsory. Students will be informed of their arrival times via Google Classroom and these will broadly be spaced out between 8.30am and 10.00am. Students are expected to make their own arrangements for travel to and from the expedition. Please note that it is a pay car park, however, in the past, if cars exit immediately after dropping off (less than 5 minutes) they have exited without having to pay.

<https://www.forestryengland.uk/wendover-woods>

Students will require **two** copies of the OS Explorer Map OL181 per group and two compasses. Students must provide all their own kit, including a tent, stove and rucksack, and are expected to carry their rations, which will include 2x lunches, 1x two course hot evening meal and 1x hot breakfast, plus snacks and emergency rations. They will also need to carry sufficient water each day (they can fill up at the campsite on Friday morning). Blister plasters and sun cream would be a sensible inclusion in their first aid kits and a waterproof jacket and trousers are essential! All equipment used by students on the Practice Expedition should be checked for completeness, dryness and cleanliness well before the Final Expedition. **Students must have all equipment, including roll mat, packed inside their rucksack.** If students are struggling to pack, we will be happy to help them in school **up until Friday 26 June.**

The expedition will finish at approximately 4.00pm on Friday, although this will vary depending on each group. Students will ring their parents/carers when they are near the end, but reception is not good in Wendover Woods and some groups may be considerably later than 4.00pm. Upon their return, students will have a debrief and go through their presentation with their assessor, so please do not arrive until you receive a call from your child to (hopefully) avoid paying the parking charge.

In the event that a student is unwell or misbehaves on the Expedition, parents/carers will be required to pick them up from the campsite. There will be staff at various points along the routes and at the campsites during the evening. Due to the nature of the Award, we operate a remote supervision policy. As such, a mobile phone number is provided for emergencies. Please ensure that your child has written down the number in case they need it. Students will only be allowed to use mobile phones in emergencies, in accordance with the regulations of the Duke of Edinburgh Award, so **please do not try to contact them during the Expeditions and do not ask them to contact you as they may fail as a result.** Students should also not bring smart watches, as they are not allowed. All students need to have the DofE phone number: **07837 417235** and this should be their first point of contact in case of problems. The phone is on the EE network, which has the best reception in the area, but you should be aware that reception can be patchy due to the remote location. However, there is reception at the campsite during the night. Students can also ring the school directly (**01923 671424**), who will call us on a different number if the above number is unobtainable.

Headteacher: Mr A Smith MPhil (Cantab), NPQH, FCCT, FRSA

High Elms Lane, Garston, Herts WD25 0UU

admin@parmiters.herts.sch.uk | www.parmiters.herts.sch.uk | 01923 671424 | Thomas Parmiter Sports Centre 01923 682805

If you previously told us of a medical need and feel we need more information, or if something new has developed since the practice expedition, please contact us to discuss this. In the event of an emergency whilst students are on the expedition, please contact the DofE emergency number listed above.

All of the DofE supervising staff will be on the Silver Expedition in the days leading up to the Bronze Expedition so, if students, parents or carers need assistance or to discuss anything, it is essential this happen before Friday 26 June.

Kind regards

The DofE Team