



Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

Our Ref: LD/JP/cc/DofE Bronze Award/Year 9

29th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

I write to update you on your child's Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. We are planning for the expeditions to take place on the below dates:

Practice Expeditions

- Friday 4th June 2021 – Saturday 5th June 2021 – Pupils in 9B1, 9B2, 9B3, 9C1, 9C2
- Friday 11th June 2021 – Saturday 12th June 2021 – Pupils in 9C3, 9M1, 9M2, 9M3, 9W1, 9W2, 9W3

Assessed Expeditions - Cannock Chase

- Friday 18th June 2021 – Saturday 19th June 2021 - Pupils in 9B1, 9B2, 9B3, 9C1, 9C2
- Friday 25th 2021 – Saturday 26th 2021 - Pupils in 9C3, 9M1, 9M2, 9M3, 9W1, 9W2, 9W3

On the Friday of the practice expedition, pupils will be in school and taught a number of key expedition skills including camp craft, the countryside code, map reading and route planning. Your child will then return home to sleep and return to school on the Saturday morning for a full day of walking in the Lickey Hills, applying all that they have learnt the previous day.

We are intending to camp overnight on Cannock Chase on the assessed expedition, providing the government and Duke of Edinburgh Award guidelines permit this. If the guidelines do not allow overnight stays but do let schools continue with all other aspects of the expedition, then we will continue with the weekend without the camping element.

The kit and food requirements needed for the expeditions can be found on the below link:

<https://www.dofe.org/shopping/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Expedition-Kit-Guide-October-2020.pdf>.

Please remember that the school will provide cooking equipment and tents for pupils to use.

Next week, pupils will receive an email from Sergeant Bew inviting them to join a Microsoft Team's meeting in March 2021. The meeting will provide pupils with information on route planning, volunteering, physical and skills sections, as well as advice for developing their fitness before the expeditions.





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All pupils must ensure that they have completed their volunteering, physical and skill sections of their eDofE account. Each section must also have been approved before June 2021. If your child has not completed these sections, then they will not be able to go on the expeditions. It is pivotal that pupils follow the DofE guidelines on their chosen activities and when each section is finished, they upload an assessor's report completed correctly and not by a family member. For more information, please visit this link:
<https://www.dofe.org/assessor/>.

The remaining balance of £30.00 is due by **Monday 1st March 2021**, making the total cost paid for the award £60. This has been reduced by £10 as pupils are not camping on their practice expedition as originally planned. If your child is in receipt of free school meals, they are not required to pay this.

If the expeditions are unable to take place, then you will be reimbursed all money paid apart from the Bronze DofE Starter Pack, as we have already paid for these. Please note that even if expeditions were cancelled and you are refunded, as we have given your child a starter pack they will still be fully registered as a Duke of Edinburgh Award participant and have complete access to their eDofE account.

If pupils have questions about their award, please ask them to email Sergeant Bew. Alternatively, you can contact the school on 0121 366 6600 and ask to speak to Mr Phillips (Deputy Headteacher) or email postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk.

Yours sincerely

Ms L Draycott
Headteacher



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