



1<sup>st</sup> July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: DofE Silver Qualifying Expedition Dates – 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2021 -**

I wanted to drop you a quick note ahead of the qualifying walk to make sure that all is still well and the groups are ready for the long weekend. The practice walks went well and I was really impressed by the teamwork and skills shown by the groups over the two days. The expedition will have some changes to the traditional format to take account of COVID restrictions but complies fully with the adapted award criteria from DofE head office.

The expedition will consist of three separate day walks that have been planned by the candidates. They have been given the aim of designing 3 local walks that can be published for people to use in the local area the help with their wellbeing. The walks will include interesting facts and information about some of the key points and locations they will visit.

Participants will need to meet at school each day as this is the start point of each planned walk. On Friday can they please be at the community centre car park at 8:00am to meet with their assessor and do pre-expedition checks. All walks for the remaining days will start at 9:00am. They will finish each day at 17:00 at Arnold Hill.

Equipment

Participants need to be seen to be self-sufficient for the entire walk (all three days) so will need the following equipment with them for each day of the walk, including all of their cooked meal packs.

A day walking back pack large enough to hold the items below (we have some in stores that we can issue on loan if needed)

Waterproofs (jacket and trousers)

Spare warm jumper/fleece, spare socks, spare t-shirt

Personal first kit

Torch and whistle

Packed lunch and snacks for the walk

A boil in the bag type hot meal to prepare and eat for each of their day walks (e.g. Wayfayerer) and cutlery to eat it with.

Water bottle(s) to carry at least 1ltr (water will be available during the walk if top ups are needed)

Sunscreen

If there have been any changes to the medical and contact information provided for the practice walks please email me so this can be updated. Participants should carry any medication as needed – supervisors cannot be responsible for carrying or administering medication.

If there are questions about the information contained here please feel free to contact me. Can I encourage you to log in to the eDofE site/app and keep the records and any assessor reports up to date.

Arnold Hill Academy is part of the Spencer Academies Trust

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Yours faithfully

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