



# LITTLEPORT AND EAST CAMBS ACADEMY

## *An Active Learning Trust School*

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award: Assessed Expedition 2021**

The first ever LECA DofE Bronze Award Assessed Expedition will be taking place next weekend, 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> May at Grafham Water Outdoor Centre. We are excited to finally be able to run this event, and I'm sure your son/daughter is as well. I will outline below the expectations and requirements for the Expedition and what is required of yourselves and the participants.

#### **Transport: Departure and Arrival**

Drop off: LECA on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May, 7.45 - 8am

Pick up: LECA on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May, 5pm

On Friday, we will travel using our school mini-buses to Grafham and have arranged to drop off students at the north end of Grafham. Students will be packed and ready to begin their walk from their drop off point: 43 Breach Road, Huntingdon PE28 0BA. On the second day, Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May, students will have packed up their campsite and have completed their second route to return to the starting/drop off point at approximately 3-3.45pm.

#### **Venue**

The Expedition camping ground is based at Grafham Water Outdoor Centre. The campsite is well equipped with hot water, toilets and showers for the duration of their stay when they arrive at the campsite on Friday afternoon until they leave on Saturday morning. Staff members will be camping with the group overnight.

#### **Expedition Routes**

During our after school sessions, students will have created their two walking routes for their Expedition. They will have planned out their route and aim for the Expedition and have completed a route card for each day. As part of the 20 Conditions for the Assessed Expedition, students need to take part in 6 hours of planned activity each day. This includes researching and collecting information for the Aim of their Expedition, which groups have now decided upon. The groups will be walking approximately 24km over 2 days using the route cards they have prepared. They need to carry all of their equipment including tents, bedding, Trangia stoves, food and water. Your son/daughter's fully packed rucksack should not exceed 25% of their body weight. The groups should have planned menus for their group and have been provided an equipment/kit list.

In preparation for their Expedition, maps and route cards will be printed and laminated to ensure that students are able to use these in varying weather conditions and ensures they are all equipped with what is needed to navigate their walk.

#### **Expedition Kit**

LECA Expedition kit will be distributed after school on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May to the groups. Students will be provided a DofE 65 litre rucksack and groups will be allocated their kit and decide on who is carrying which equipment for the duration of the Expedition. If students wish to use their own 65 litre rucksack, they are welcome to bring their own. All student's rucksacks will need to be weighed to ensure that the weight does not exceed a quarter of their body weight. This can be organised at home, and if the bag is too heavy, students will need to consider what equipment is not essential or reallocate the equipment in the group.

All LECA DofE kit will be collected when we return on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May, therefore, students are required to have a bag or bin bags to transfer their own belongings when they return home.

Littleport and East Cambridgeshire Academy,

Littleport, Cambridgeshire,

CB6 1EW

Principal: Mr Scott Gaskins

[www.lecacademy.org](http://www.lecacademy.org)

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## **Mobile Phones**

One purpose of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award is to encourage independence and resourcefulness in its participants. Mobile phones are allowed but only for emergency use. Each group may carry ONE mobile phone, which will be wrapped and sealed by the Leader. The Expedition Assessors can check the contents of the participants' packs and failing to comply with this rule may result in the whole group failing the expedition section of the award. You should not expect to hear from your son/daughter during the Expedition but if there is an emergency you can reach their Leader on the numbers listed below.

## **Emergency Contact: DofE Expedition Staff**

In the event of an emergency or urgent situation, where parents/carers need to inform the DofE Leader, they will be able to contact their child's Leader on the following numbers:

Group 1: Leader - Mr Daniel Hughes: 07423138751

Group 2: Leader - Mrs Christina Emmess: 07423138035

Group 3: Leader – Mrs Paula Edwards: 07423137973

Students will be given this number in which they will be able to ring in the event of being lost or in an emergency. This number is only to be used on this Expedition and therefore deleted from any phones that it has been used with during the Expedition.

## **Student Emergency Contact Details & Medical Information**

All students emergency contact details and medical information will be provided to all DofE staff members. If there is a requirement for prescribed medication to be given with adult supervision, this can be arranged with their DofE Leader or Assessor. If parents/carers wish to provide any pain relief medication, i.e. paracetamol, they will need to provide written permission to inform their child's DofE Leader and Assessor that their child is permitted to take this medication. This written document must be provided prior to leaving LECA.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [christina.emmess@lecacademy.org](mailto:christina.emmess@lecacademy.org).

Yours faithfully,

Mrs C Emmess  
DofE Centre Manager  
Littleport and East Cambridgeshire Academy