



Ashfields, Bromyard, Herefordshire, HR7 4QS

T:01885 482230 www.qehs.co

E:admin@tcat.school

Executive Head: Martin Farmer BEd (Hons) NPQH/NPQHEL

Head of School: Mr. S. Seneque NPQH

Ref: HE/2024

Tuesday 4th March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expeditions

As the expedition season approaches I thought I should reiterate a few key points that underpin this section of the Award. At Silver level, each participant must plan, train for and undertake an adventurous 3 day, 2 night journey by their own physical effort. In order to successfully complete this part of the Award your son/daughter has to complete both a practice and qualifying expedition, of which the latter must meet the Expedition Aim and Requirements set out by the DofE. These can be found at: <https://www.dofe.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Expedition-Aim-and-Requirements-1.pdf>

Due to the nature of the expedition section the use of mobile phones is also restricted. The use of mobile phones on an expedition can destroy the sense of isolation and solitude core to the learning and self-reliance of this section. Our policy on student mobile phones is that they must not be taken on the expedition, but can be handed in before the start, to allow participants to contact home on completion of their journey. A mobile phone will be taken by the team for emergency use only. This phone will be switched off, kept in a sealed bag, and packed with first aid kits. Therefore, you will not hear from your child while they are undertaking their expedition. Should you need to contact with them, you can do so through me on 07813 304661.

Three levels of supervision are used to varying degrees throughout the expedition section. Direct supervision is used at particularly hazardous sections of a practice or qualifying expedition (i.e. crossing major roads). Close supervision is used during the practice expedition so that the supervisor is able to intervene if necessary, and offer support and guidance. Finally, remote supervision, where the supervisor remains out of sight and hearing of the team and allows them to get on with the expedition without any intervention, is the norm for the majority of the practice and qualifying expedition.



Three Counties Academy Trust



QUEEN ELIZABETH
HIGH SCHOOL

The dates for the expeditions are as follows:

- Friday 28th , Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th March 2025 – Practice Expedition (Herefordshire/ Gloucestershire countryside)
- Saturday 28th, Sunday 29th June and Monday 30th June 2024 – Qualifying Expedition (Black Mountains)

Should you have any questions about any of the DofE sections please do not hesitate to contact me. In the meantime, could you please complete the attached permission slip for the above expeditions.

Yours faithfully,

Ms H Eames

DofE Expedition Supervisor and Leader

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The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Name of Student: Form:

I/we give permission for our child to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award:

- Friday 28th , Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th March 2025 – Practice Expedition (Herefordshire/ Gloucestershire countryside)
- Saturday 28th, Sunday 29th June and Monday 30th June 2024 – Qualifying Expedition (Black Mountains)
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We understand that the use of mobile phones is restricted on expeditions. We are also aware that at times our child will be remotely supervised and will have no direct contact with the DofE supervisor.

Signed: Date:

(Parent/Carer)