

Wednesday 6th May 2026



Dear Parent/Carer,

Further to our previous communication regarding The Duke of Edinburgh expedition, I am writing to you regarding some further details regarding the training and assessed section of the award.

The expedition is being organised through East Coast Outdoors, a nationally recognised and approved activity provider for the Duke of Edinburgh awards (<https://eastcoastoutdoors.co.uk/>).

The expedition section involves your child working as part of a small team to plan their expedition's aim, choose a route and do some training to make sure they're fully prepared – before spending 4 days and 2 nights in total in two Suffolk locations.

	Dates
Practice expedition (Two Mile Bottom, Thetford)	6 th – 7 th June 2026
Assessed expedition (Thorpe Woodlands, Thetford)	4 th and 5 th July 2026

Location

The expedition will take place at two different sites in Thetford across two separate weekends.

Staffing

East Coast Outdoors instructors are all DBS checked, hold a 1st Aid certificate, a Child Safeguarding Award and are qualified to safely deliver in the terrain they operate in. As well as myself in attendance for both weekends, Mrs Cooper-Adams will be supporting the practice expedition and Mr Garwood will be in attendance for the assessed one.

Equipment

Your child will be given full training on what equipment they need, what is suitable, what not and what they should think about leaving at home.

East Coast Outdoors provides all teams with the following:

- a) Tents
- b) Cookers (stoves) and gas
- c) Maps
- d) Compass

e) GPS Locators

Students will also be able to hire personal equipment such as rucksacks, walking boots (limited sizes), waterproof trousers etc, through the school on a first come first served basis at no additional cost. If they require any equipment, they need to let me know so that this can be arranged. Attached to this email is a Duke of Edinburgh kit list outlining what is required. Pupils will also be given a paper copy of this.

[DofE Expedition Kit List - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award](#)

Food

As part of the expedition, students will be required to bring their own food for the weekend. Part of the DoE conditions involves cooking an evening meal. Whilst they will not need to bring breakfast on the Saturday or an evening meal on the Sunday, they will need two lunches, a dinner and a breakfast as well as snacks. A meal planner has been attached to this email and suggested expedition food to bring is available through the following link.

<https://www.dofe.org/shop/expedition-kit/expedition-food/>

Sessions will be delivered to your child about what to bring prior to the expedition. The cooking will also be supervised by an adult leader.

Costing

Further to the deposit payment of £40, there is a one final amount to be paid for the expedition outlined below. Payment for this can be made via Bromcom.

	Amount	Due Date
Final instalment	£125	5/6/2026

Parental Consent

East Coast Outdoors require that all participants complete a 'Parental and Medical Consent'. This needs to be completed online through the link. [Parental and Medical Consent Form 2026](#)

Students will be unable to attend the expedition without this.

Qualifying Conditions

Your child will be assessed on the DofE's 20 conditions and must comply with these in order to successfully complete the qualifying expedition. A copy of these 20 conditions can be found on the following link.

<https://www.dofe.org/20conditions/>

Remote Supervision

During the Practice and Qualifying expeditions, we will be remotely supervising your child. This involves the safety and well-being of a group being monitored from a distance, with limited direct contact with the group. Remote supervision can take different forms and instructors will move between different types of remote supervision to ensure that the safety of a group is managed without compromising the expedition experience.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the expedition, please contact me.

Further details outlining the weekends activities and schedule will be sent out soon.

I look forward to welcoming your child onto their final section of their Duke of Edinburgh Award and completing their expedition section.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Rednall

Duke of Edinburgh Manager