



**Principal:** Clairia Salter

**27th January 2025**

## **DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD - Year 9 - January 25 Update**

**Dear Parents/Carers,**

We are writing to inform you of an exciting update regarding our upcoming practice expedition. As part of our preparation for the full expedition, we have decided to include an overnight stay during the practice. This will allow us to assess and recognise any potential reasonable adjustments that may need to be made to ensure the success and inclusivity of the experience for all students.

### **Details of the Practice Expedition:**

- **Date:** Thursday 15th May to Friday 16th May 2025
- **Schedule:**
  - Students will attend school as normal on Thursday, arriving at **8:30am**.
  - Students will need to bring their practice expedition kit - see below for details.
  - They will complete their usual school day.
  - After school, they will remain on site to set up tents, practice cooking, and participate in safety protocols as part of their expedition training.
  - Students will stay overnight on the school premises under the supervision of our staff.
  - On Friday, they will complete their practice walk, clean and return equipment, and will be ready to be collected at the usual school finish time 15:15.

The overnight stay is a crucial part of the preparation process, giving students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with key expedition skills, such as setting up their tents and using cooking equipment. This also allows our team to observe and address any individual needs in advance of the main expedition.

If you have any issues with this change or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Crew Leader. Additionally, if you have specific questions regarding the expedition, you are welcome to get in touch with your child's Expedition Supervisor directly.

### **Expedition Supervisors by Crew:**

- **Crew Kelly** – Mr. Morrison: [cmorrison@xpschool.org](mailto:cmorrison@xpschool.org)
- **Crew Caldwell** – Mr. Booth: [abooth@xpschool.org](mailto:abooth@xpschool.org)
- **Crew Nightingale** – Mrs. Mawby: [nmawby@xpschool.org](mailto:nmawby@xpschool.org)
- **Crew Lovelace** – Mrs. Watson: [ewatson@xpschool.org](mailto:ewatson@xpschool.org)

Thank you for your continued support as we prepare for this exciting experience. We look forward to seeing our students thrive as they develop valuable expedition skills.

Kind regards,



**Bronze Practice & Expedition Kit List**

- **Rucksack and sleeping bags are provided.**

Quantity	Personal kit items:	Check
1-2 litres	<b>Plastic Water</b> bottle filled with water	
	A watch or something to tell the time (not your phone)	
	<b>Black Bin bag</b> to line your rucksack. (This will keep your kit dry inside your rucksack as they are not waterproof).	
	<b>Plastic carrier bag</b> (for mucky boots)	
	<b>Waterproof outer jacket</b> (This must be fully waterproof).	
	<b>Waterproof trousers</b> (These need to be fully waterproof)	
	<b>Walking Boots</b> (preferably with ankle support, if you are buying new boots, wearing them a few times before the expedition to break them in is recommended)	
	<b>Cutlery and cup/tub</b> - For your main meal	
	<b>Warm hat</b> (optional)	
	<b>Pair Gloves</b> (optional)	
	<b>Sun hat / sunscreen/Insect repellent/wipes</b> (optional)	
	Sunglasses (optional)	
	<b>Baselayer top</b> (long or short sleeve, not cotton) x 2 (optional)	
	<b>Midlayer top</b> (fleece material is good, not cotton) x 2 (optional)	
	<b>Warm Coat</b> - for Campsite in the evening (optional)	
	<b>Hiking trousers</b> - (not cotton) shorts are optional, however these are not recommended due to ticks and other insect bites x 2 (optional)	
	<b>Hiking socks</b> (not cotton) x 2 (optional)	
	Footwear for campsite only - flip flops/Crocs	
	Change of clothing for Day 2 / Sleepwear	
	Torch Optional	
	<b>Pack lunch for first day</b> - lunch (School pack lunches are available so some students)	
	<b>Personal medication</b> - Please inform your expedition supervisor of any medication you need or will be bringing with you and hand over to them the morning of the expedition.	
	Plasters or blister plasters (compeed) for personal use	

## Kit List

See below for our guide to purchasing kit and a full kit list. If you have any problems with getting all items on your kit list please speak with your crew leader, as we may be able to lend certain items from school.

- The Kit lists are **MANDATORY** so if you have any queries about it, please speak to your Expedition Supervisor or Crew Leader.
- Please note the following: Denim clothing is not allowed. This is because when cotton gets wet it stays wet for a long time. Man made fabrics such as synthetic, nylon, polyester or natural fabric such as wool are better for outdoor expeditions.
- Please do not send your child with denim or cotton clothing. When cotton material gets wet (from sweat or rain) it stays wet and causes your body to lose heat rapidly. Man made fabrics such as synthetics, nylon, polyester or natural fabric such as wool are better for outdoor expeditions as they dry quickly or retain heat better even when wet compared to cotton.
- Most sports clothing is made from man made materials and are available at reasonable prices from Sports Direct, Trespass, Go outdoors and Mountain Warehouse.
- Students will be expected to do a full kit check, the date has been outlined above. The Kit check is a necessary part of expedition preparations so that students have appropriate kit when on expedition.
- Students will pack the remainder of the kit in their rucksacks on the morning of the expedition at school when a final kit check will be done.
- Any equipment or kit supplied by the school to groups or individual students must be returned in the same condition it was given out. Groups and / or individuals may be charged for any items lost or damaged whilst in their possession on expedition and lose their deposit.