



## HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

NJS/TCC

16 December 2022

Dear Parent/carer,

I am organising the Practice Expedition section which is part of the Silver DofE Award. Please be aware that your son/daughter will only be allowed to go on expedition if they have attended all training sessions and have completed two other areas of the Award (Volunteering, Skill, and Physical) by Friday 26 May 2023. The final area must be completed before the Qualifying Expedition which will be in September 2023.

At this point I need to ask for a deposit of £10 to cover the booking of the campsite. The final cost will be confirmed nearer the time but will be in the region of £80. This will cover the cost of transport, campsite fees, insurance, kit hire (including stoves, fuel, maps etc.) and cover costs. If your son/daughter does not meet the criteria for going on the expedition then the deposit will be refunded to you.

We shall be leaving school at 8am on Monday 17 July 2023 and returning at approximately 3.15pm on Wednesday 19 July 2023. We will be staying at Fieldhead Campsite, Edale in the Peak District.

The days will be spent walking in a group, mostly unaccompanied. Staff will be monitoring each group's progress at regular checkpoints. We are fully qualified to supervise all aspects of the expedition. Staff will be staying at the campsite with the students. This is open to the public, we do not have sole use and they must respect the rules of the campsite as well as school and expedition rules at all times. We are very lucky that at this time they are prepared to accept DofE groups.

It is part of the DofE Awards ethos, that students are expected to show self-reliance, consideration for others and a high standard of behaviour. Safety is of the utmost importance but we cannot be held responsible for an incident arising from disobedience and/or irresponsible actions. If this was to happen parents would be informed immediately and it would be expected that you would come and collect your son/daughter.

Heckmondwike Grammar School, High Street, Heckmondwike, West Yorkshire, WF16 0AH  
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Headteacher: Mr P Roberts

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Pupils will be preparing their own meals. They will need lightweight substantial food for three lunches, two breakfast and two evening meals. A comprehensive equipment list will be issued nearer the time. Pupils can borrow a rucksack and tent if required. They will also be provided with a map and a stove and fuel for cooking. They will be carrying all of their gear so non-essentials should not be taken. The campsite has running water and toilet/shower facilities.

We can be contacted at all times by calling my school mobile in emergencies only. The groups will be given this number on the morning of the expedition. Phones are not allowed during the expedition. There will be one person allocated in the group as the emergency contact. This number will be carried by myself in case I need to get in touch with the group during the day but will be switched off once they arrive at the campsite. All other phones must either remain at home or will be switched off and sealed in a plastic bag and kept in their rucksacks until they return home.

Can the deposit of £10 via parent pay please be paid by Friday 6 January.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Swann', followed by a horizontal line.

Mrs N Swann

DofE Leader