

ASHLYNS SCHOOL



May 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award Assessed Expedition Weekend - 20 and 21 May

Following the practice expedition and route planning sessions, we hope students are looking forward to the forthcoming DofE Bronze assessed expedition on 20 and 21 May. The assessed expedition is moderated by external DofE assessors and must be passed to achieve the award. During this expedition students will walk with remote supervision.

Timings and Drop Off/Collection Points

Due to the number of students taking part there are two start points. Students will walk one route on the first day, camp overnight at Corner Farm Campsite (HP16 9NP, Grid Reference SP 89230 05722) and then walk to Ashlyns School on the second day. Please note the location and time of your child's start point. Students must arrive promptly and we highly recommend lift shares where possible due to limited parking at start points. Parents will need to drop their child off and leave promptly to allow students to meet their assessor and set off on the expedition. Collection times on Sunday from Ashlyns School will vary depending on each group's progress on their journey. Students will also have to undertake a debrief after their arrival back at school with their assessor. Please follow us on Twitter where we will provide updates on collection times for each group at [@AshlynsDofE](https://twitter.com/AshlynsDofE). We also understand that whatsapp groups between parents have worked well for messages and saved all students having to call/message.

Saturday 20 May

The following groups start from Ley Hill Cricket Club, 10 Kiln Ln, Chesham, HP5 3QS

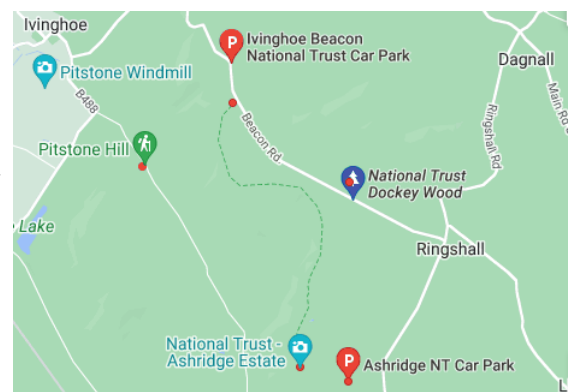
Group	Meet Time
1	8.00
2	8.15
3	8.30
4	8.45

Group	Meet Time
5	9.00
6	9.15
7	9.30
8	9.45

The following groups start from National Trust Dockey Wood Car Park

Group	Meet Time
9	8.00
10	8.15
11	8.30
12	8.45

Group	Meet Time
13	9.00
14	9.15
15	9.30
16	9.45



Chesham Road, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire HP4 3AH

T: 01442 863605

E: admin@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk www.ashlyns.herts.sch.uk

Head Teacher: James Shapland BSc, MSc

Sunday 21 May

All Groups	Collect from Ashlyns School any time from 4.30pm. Please wait for contact to be made either via the Ashlyns School D of E twitter or from students. All groups will need to undertake a 'debrief' with their assessor post expedition.
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Kit List

Please remind yourself of the [kit list](#). If purchasing kit, please do not forget to claim the [10% discount](#) at selected retailers. Assessors will carry out a kit check during the weekend. Students **must** wear sturdy walking boots to complete the expedition (please ensure students have broken boots in). All kit should be waterproofed and any kit on the outside of the bag should be wrapped in bin liners (please bring spares for day two) and covered by a waterproof cover. Please ensure your child has a combination of layers, eg base layer, T-shirt, fleece and waterproof. This will be more beneficial than one large hoodie. Students may also want to pack some lightweight trainers/shoes (toes must be covered) to wear around the camp site after walking.

Group kit will be shared amongst the group. It is the group's responsibility to decide who will bring each item of the shared group kit, eg washing up liquid, tea towel.

DofE advice is that bags should not weigh more than 25% of the participant's body weight (including group kit). Please do check this before arriving at the expedition.

School Kit Collection (Tents/Trangias etc)

Groups will be collecting this **after school on Wednesday 17 May at the Duke of Edinburgh hut**. Groups must be responsible for the kit and its safe return after the weekend. Kit must be fairly distributed among the group. Fuel for the trangias will be given out at the campsite for the evening meal and will not be carried by students. Students are asked to respect group kit, look after it well and ensure they keep all parts together. We will be asking group members to take tents home post expedition to dry/air before returning them.

Food and Drink

We would like to emphasise the importance of students eating well and planning food carefully to cater for a high intensity weekend. Students must complete and bring with them their menu planner (on Google Classroom). They will need to ensure they have lunch for day one and a hot evening meal they can cook (boil in a bag meal, packet pasta in sauce etc). They will also need a hot breakfast (eg porridge pot) for day two and a lunch. Students should also ensure they bring snacks they can easily access during their expedition. Emergency rations are also compulsory. **Please avoid any nuts in your planning of meals and snacks due to the risk of severe allergic reaction.**

Students must also carry 2 litres of water; there will be opportunities to refill along their route.

Mobile phones

Students will need to decide who will be bringing the emergency phone for their group. This phone will be wrapped in a plastic bag and should remain switched off for the whole trip, unless there is an emergency. This phone will be brought at their own risk so we recommend bringing an old phone if possible. We do not expect to see mobile phones at any other time unless contacting parents at the end of the assessment and only when instructed to by staff.

Emergency Procedures Contact numbers

Please be reassured that each group will have a mobile phone in case of emergency and an emergency card with staff telephone numbers. Each group will also have a GPS tracker (monitored by staff), be met by assessors and staff at checkpoints along the route.

DofE Contact – please only use this number in case of emergency, not to enquire about progress or collection times: 07376 426330.

Expectations

Students have signed a behaviour contract which we expect them to uphold. Students are representing Ashlyns at all times and must ensure they pick up litter and follow staff requests. Some students' behaviour overnight was disappointing on the practice expedition. We are staying on an external campsite overnight. The expedition is being supported and run by volunteers; without them it would not be possible.

eDofE

Please remember that in order to achieve the Bronze award all sections must be signed off. Following the expedition, if successful, assessors will complete an expedition report for each individual. Students are responsible for asking their assessors for the skills/volunteer and physical sections to complete a [report](#) on eDofE for them once the 3/6 month timeframe is completed. Students must share their Duke of Edinburgh number with their assessor. More details have been posted on Google Classroom for students.

If you have any questions, please do check out the [Duke of Edinburgh website](#) or email dofe@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Crawford and Mr S Waymark
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