

12th March 2021



Hollygirt
SCHOOL

To: Parents of Pupils taking Bronze DofE

Dear Parents

Duke of Edinburgh – Confirmation of dates

Thank you for your patience with regard to the delivery of the Duke of Edinburgh programme this year. I have been as frustrated as you have with the difficulties associated with safe planning and confirmation of dates. However, I hope that this communication will bring you some good news. Since the clarification of the new COVID exit strategy, unveiled by the Prime Minister at the end of February, Karos and I have been in discussion about the potential to fulfil our declared dates in May and June.

To this end, I can confirm that subject to current advice continuing, we shall be completing the expedition section of the Bronze Award as declared on the weekends of May 8/9th and June 12/ 13th. However, as you might expect, there are a couple of caveats that accompany this arrangement.

Firstly, the first weekend will not be possible to complete with an overnight stay. This remains a fundamental aspect of the restrictions and unfortunately, means the children will need to return home at the end of the day and return the next morning for day two. We are currently discussing the best options but intend to run day one from Leicestershire where access is easier for dropping off the children. We may go to the Peak District for day two but this is to be finalised.

The second weekend in June is scheduled to definitely run in the Peak District and the children will be stopping overnight as long as restrictions do not change. Full details of joining instructions will be published to you closer to the dates but I wanted to keep you informed of our current position.

I would be grateful if you could complete the medical form, accessed through the link below as soon as possible. Currently, the only information held by Karos is over a year old and this does not satisfy risk assessment requirements. I am sure you will have further questions regarding these arrangements and I am happy to answer them to the best of my ability. It has certainly been a very challenging DoE programme this year but I look forward to finally seeing the candidates on their expedition weekends.

Medical Form link (please complete by March 21st)

<https://forms.gle/T7BojeDReWUs2DfF8>

Yours sincerely

Pete Deacon
Head of PE