



Reminder- Duke of Edinburgh Silver Foot Qualifying Expedition 20- 22 April 2024

[Ocean Rock Parents Information Evening PPT](#)

Dear Parents

After a very successful Practice expedition our students are already preparing for their Qualifying expedition. The Practice will have taught them multiple different things-

- Walking at the pace of the slowest person in the group
- Do not split up or leave your group
- Split the group kit evenly, everyone is responsible for something (the largest bag should not be the heaviest)
- Check bag weight before leaving home, it should not be more than 20% of their body weight which includes 2 litres of water and some group kit

Now that your child has done their practice they will be aware whether they had too much food or not enough as well as whether their boots, clothes, sleeping bag etc were appropriate for them. Please have a frank discussion with your child about this as I have had conversations with children at either end of the spectrum with either too much weight in their bag due to clothes or food or they did not pack enough layers or have enough food. Reiterate to your child that if this is the case during the expedition to talk to Ocean Rock staff as this can be addressed by them directly and they will not be in trouble but I am including this as note so that it is unlikely your child or group will be in this situation. If your child has any injuries please email me so that Ocean Rock can put in place appropriate adjustments.

Please find below important information in preparation for the upcoming expedition as well as the Information Evening PPT with Ocean Rock directed at Bronze, Silver and Gold reminding your child of appropriate food and clothing choices.

Food and Equipment-

Please see below the link to the parents information evening which gives you guidance on appropriate food and clothing-

[2023 12 08 DofE Evening December \(youtube.com\)](#)

Hired Equipment-

If you have hired a rucksack from STRS your child will have collected it before the Easter break, they can keep hold of this for the duration of the Practice and Assessed Expedition. If your child hired personal equipment through Ocean Rock this will be given to your child at the start point.

Group Equipment that Ocean Rock supplies on the day of the Qualifying Expedition - Tent, Trangia Stoves, Maps (2 per group), Ocean Rock Emergency Contact Details.

STRS Trips Phone (Mrs Rigby-Smith)- 07367 440 335

Dates to remember:

Qualifying Expedition Transportation is by parental drop off and pick up.

Day 1- Saturday 4th May 2024

Meet time: 08.45

Meet point: Broadway Car Park, Broadway WR12 7HA

Google Maps Link: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/h1hdGxWLKGgc8rwQ7>

What3words: overt.weeded.agency

Campsite 1: Hayles Fruit Farm, Winchcombe, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. GL54 5PB

Campsite 2: Colgate Farm, Ham Road, Cheltenham, GL54 4EZ

Day 3- Monday 6th May 2024

End point: Cleeve Hill Car Park

Google Maps Link: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/44MtKLBxLxa11FAT8>

What3words: punters.durations.fractions

Pick up time: 14.00

Note- Address information is accurate with Google Maps. Due to the rural location of venues, postcodes alone will rarely be accurate. Please consider this when using SatNavs and check locations with Google Maps before. Please download What3words for an exact metre square location as this caused problems for some parents at the end of the practice.

Teams-

Teams lists are on Satchel One, some adjustments have been made due to one group having to split due to being too small due to absence so please can your child check if they have a new student in their group. If students have any queries about this please ask them to come and speak to me in G3 or F1.

eDofE Sections-

At this point, your child should have completed at least two sections of their award and all sections should be in progress (If your child has not entered information on the eDofE app and submitted it for approval it will not be in progress- please get them to check). In order to get a section marked off as completed their assessor must submit an assessor's report. Their assessor will need the following information:

- ID number (this is on the eDofE account)
- Level of Award (Bronze, Silver or Gold)
- Section they are assessing (Volunteering, Physical or Skill)
- Timescale (3 months or 6 months at Bronze and Silver, 12 or potential 18 months at Gold)

They will need to submit their report via this link: [Assessor's Report - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award \(dofe.org\)](https://www.dofe.org/assessor-report)

Please remember parents/caregivers/relatives and under-18s cannot be assessors.

STRS Kit Return-

Please can your child bring any equipment they borrowed from STRS into school on Wednesday 8th May and go to F1 at lunchtime 1.30pm to return their equipment and pick up their cheque or money. They must not just leave it in F1 as we need to know which group the equipment belongs to.

Medications-

Please ensure your child has all medications mentioned on Parent Gateway and the Medical Consent with them ready to show Ocean Rock staff at the start point as they will not be allowed to be participant until they have any declared medication with them.

Consent-

Shortly you will receive a request for consent email from our EVOLVE trips systems. Please respond to that as soon as possible to avoid chaser email and phone calls prior to the expedition.

Hopefully, this will answer any questions you have but, as always, if you have any queries please email me (cer@strs.org.uk).

Best wishes

Mrs Rigby-Smith

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