



## Ten Tors Selection Process

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Dear Parent

The students have been working really hard over this academic year to develop their navigational, fitness and campcraft skills with the hope of being selected to be part of Sir Thomas Rich's first Ten Tors team. The training they have been involved in has been challenging, resilience building and entertaining at times and they have all done incredibly well. The most recent weekend was a wild camp where myself and Ocean Rock observed their individual performances in preparation for selection.

### Considerations during selection

- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Fitness
- Navigation
- Campcraft
- Resourcefulness

As an establishment we also have to consider Army regulations stated in the team managers (TM) briefing:

**'TM is required** to assure the Director that all participants ... are sufficiently trained [and] physically prepared... to complete [their Challenge] unaided even in adverse conditions.'

**'16. Individual training requirement.** Before the Event participants must complete a structured and progressive programme of training which includes as a minimum:

- a.4 days of training on Dartmoor.
- b. 2 nights of wild camping on Dartmoor.
- c. Experience of walking in an unsupervised group.'

**17.Team training requirement.** In addition to the above, Teams must:

- a. Be sufficiently trained, physically prepared and suitably equipped to enable the team to operate safely on their own and complete the Challenge unaided even in adverse conditions.
- b. Train as a team on at least one expedition noting that best practice would be to conduct regular training as a defined team. Last minute composite teams are not permitted.

These statements have been considered carefully by the school throughout this process to ensure that we meet the requirements of the challenge and ensure the safety of our students by offering sufficient training by Ocean Rock throughout.

### Does your child still wish to be considered for selection?

The gap between the wild camp and selection has been intentional for your child to consider whether they would like to be considered for selection. They have all done fantastically to have come so far with their training however, it must be emphasised that on the Wild camp they walked approximately 26 miles over two days. If they are successfully selected for the team they will be walking approximately 40 miles over two days in April with the final challenge being a total distance of 50 miles over two days in May.

Before final selection is put to them on Friday we must know of any student who upon reflection has decided the training was a sufficient experience and they do not wish to continue further with Ten Tors. Please do take the time this evening to discuss this with your child as how they all performed on the Wild Camp weekend was fantastic but we do not want individuals being selected for the Challenge who are hesitant as it would make what is going to be a very challenging experience more difficult for them unnecessarily.

### My child does not wish to be considered for selection, what should we do?

Please email me directly at [cer@strs.org.uk](mailto:cer@strs.org.uk) **before Friday 21 March 2025.**

## How many students can be selected and when is selection happening?

As you were told during the introduction to Ten Tors as part of the rules there are restrictions on team sizes. This means that out of the nine students involved in our training this year, only six can be selected for the Sir Thomas Rich's team and one additional student can be registered as a reserve. The reserve would still attend the final Wild Camp in April and would go to the Challenge in May but would only take part in the event itself if one of the team members was ill overnight before the start of the Challenge. They **do not join halfway** through the challenge if a team member has to withdraw.

Myself (Mrs Rigby-Smith) as Team Manager and Mr Marks as Head of Year 12 (Pastoral) will be meeting with each student to discuss the outcome of the selection process on **Friday 21 March from 1.30pm onwards**.

I understand that this selection process is difficult and individuals will be disappointed if they are not selected or even if they have been placed as a reserve. However, all nine students have been an absolute pleasure to work with and the skills that they will be bringing to the DofE Mixed Mode teams will be invaluable. If your child is not involved in DofE please do remind them that they can still explore other Outdoor Leadership courses once they are 18 such as the [Hill and Moorland Leader](#) Award and the [Mountain Leader](#) Award both which would enable them to do freelance instructor work in the outdoor education industry.

## Work Experience Opportunity

Ocean Rock have been so impressed with all of the students that they have said if any students are interested in work experience in the outdoor industry they would be happy to support them with supervisor opportunities as well as other possibilities. If your child is interested please email me for further information.

Regardless of the outcome of the selection process it has been a pleasure supporting all the students with the 10 Tors training this year.

Best wishes

Mrs Rigby-Smith

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