



D of E Gold Award and Ten Tors- Parents and Students Information Evening, 16 September

Dear Parents

Ten Tors and Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award – Information Evening, Wednesday 16 September 2026

We would like to warmly invite you to attend an information evening in the Sixth Form Study Room (Inside the Sixth Form Centre) on Wednesday 16 September 2026 **at 6pm**, introducing the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Sir Thomas Rich's followed by an introduction to the Ten Tors **at 7pm**. Gate One will remain open for you to access the tennis courts to park. **Please be mindful it is also Year 7 Parents' Evening so parking will be busy.**

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Award is held in high regard at Sir Thomas Rich's with over 200 students completing their Bronze, Silver and Gold expeditions over the past few months, **54 of those students were completing Gold.**

If your child has been involved in the DofE Award before, we would highly recommend they attend. Year 12 have had an assembly prior to the information evening which informed them of what was involved but it did not discuss dates, locations and costs. The evening will share this information as well as give them and yourselves an opportunity to speak directly with the providers and past students about specific expedition selection. If your child is in Year 13 and wished they had completed their Gold in Year 12 but were unable to, they are also welcome to attend.

The programme for the information session covers:

- The structure of the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award
- Student Insight
- Expedition Mode Choice (Ocean Rock - Mixed and Off Grid - Foot. Both will be in attendance to talk through their individual offers)
- Expedition Dates
- Costings
- Next steps

Following the evening, the PowerPoint presentation will be made available along with an online Enrolment Form with deadlines given. This information will be used to create your child's eDofE account or to add Gold to their existing account. If your child has not done DofE before they are still able to enrol.

SCOPAY will be updated with the total cost of your child's involvement in the scheme. You will be notified of the initial enrolment costs and deadlines to ensure that your child can be promptly enrolled on the eDofE system. A further schedule of payments will be explained in the follow up letter.

Ten Tors

Sir Thomas Rich's School has taken part in Ten Tors for the past two years and our selected teams completed the 45 mile challenge route assigned, which was a fantastic achievement for all students involved. We hope to be able to enter the challenge again this year but would like to make it available to Year 10, 12 and 13.

The Ten Tors Challenge is organised by the British Army and is attempted by 2,400 teenagers in 400 teams of six. The teams navigate routes of 35, 45 or 55 miles (depending on age) over the Northern half of Dartmoor, visiting ten nominated tors / check points in under two days. Teams must be self-sufficient, carrying all that they need to complete their route and stay out overnight safely.

The information evening will discuss the difficulty of the challenge and how it differs from the Duke of Edinburgh's Award as well as dates for training and when final team selection shall happen. As with the Duke of Edinburgh Award, a follow up letter will be made available, along with SCOPAY being set up.

Should you have any follow up questions please contact me, Louise Atkinson or Mrs Dempsey who is supporting with our Outdoor Education Provision via the email outdooreducation@strs.org.uk.

Best wishes

Mrs Rigby-Smith

Duke of Edinburgh Manager

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