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See Distribution

Reference: DOFE/WALKING/GOLD

Date: 15 March 2024

ADMINISTRATION INSTRUCTION – Gold Assessment Expedition (Walking)

General: Pate's Grammar School will conduct a Gold Assessment Expedition in the Lake District on **23-27 March 2024**.

Aim: The aim of the 4-day 3-night qualifying expedition to include 1 orientation day is to complete the group's aim whilst undertaking a challenging expedition.

Event Details:

Date	Time	Location	Remarks
23 March 2024	0900	OED	Kit Checks / Pack
	1100	Depart OED	Depart for the Lake District, dinner can be bought on route or students can cook at camp
24-27 March 2024	-	Lake District	Gold Qualifying Expedition
27 March 2024	1300	Lake District	Depart for OED
	1800	OED	ETA students must clean and pack away equipment before they are able to leave

The collection time is an estimate and heavily depends on the group and traffic, if we are running late or happen to be early we will ensure that the students inform you.

Do not turn up before us as the gates maybe locked so you will not be able to wait on school grounds. **When you have access to the site please park at the front of the school away from the OED centre.**

Personal Equipment: Please refer to the 'Equipment' document for a detailed personal equipment list.

This is also a reminder that we do not want to see any strappy tops or mini shorts on any of the expeditions, students who turn up dressed like this will be turned away. Please remember that when you are walking in long grass or around sheep and cattle, there can be danger of ticks etc. so lightweight walking trousers are strongly advised. Accompanying staff will carry all safety equipment which will be issued on the morning of the event and teams will be liable for any damage caused to this equipment whilst it is in their care.

Food & Drink: Groups must provide their own food and submit a detailed meal plan to OED before the trip as part of their preplanning.

Students must carry 2 litres of water for both days. Participants will not be able to buy food during the expedition phase of the trip. We advise food is high in calories and nutritional value. Fizzy

drinks such as Coca Cola are not advisable. Please also ensure they eat a substantial breakfast beforehand.

Risk Assessment & Emergency procedures: Groups will be managed with “remote-supervision” by a member of staff designated to each group, checkpoints will be in place to monitor their progress. Risk Assessments have been completed and are issued to all staff involved. All participants and assistants will receive a thorough briefing at the start of the activity.

Medical: Medical procedures are detailed within our risk assessment and all our staff hold a current First Aid qualification. As well as the First Aid Kit the expedition staff carry, there is a comprehensive First Aid Kit and stretcher held inside the safety vehicle stationed with our qualified safety staff.

Pupils with medication must be responsible to self-administer. In the event of Asthma, the inhaler must be carried in a waterproof container and location made known to the instructors. The instructors will confirm this prior to embarking on the training.

Behaviour/Standards: Sensible behavior is expected at all times. Staff reserve the right to exclude participants from any and all activities in the unlikely event that such a standard of behavior is not maintained, or if safety is compromised. Participants are reminded that they are to always adhere to the DofE expedition requirements. Failure to do this may result in the day walk having to be re-taken. Pupils are to follow the country code, particularly to leave no litter.

Command and signal:

Mobile phones: As this is an official qualifying expedition, any use of a mobile phone by any member of any group, other than for the sole use for an emergency is strictly forbidden. Phones will be checked before and after the expedition by the assessor. Anyone found using a mobile phone to gain an advantage towards their DofE award may be deferred and will have to complete another expedition. This could also extend to their whole group being deferred. We advise that mobile phones are safely secured in their bag where they will not get damaged or affected by water. If students wish to take photos, we advise bringing a camera with spare batteries.

Radios: All staff and groups will be allocated radios. The 9-seater van will be equipped with a radio and will be utilized as the safety and command vehicle throughout the expedition.

Contact Details: In the event of an emergency, please contact the following:

Mrs Jane Jowett Head of OED 07731 086442

Mobile signal is likely to be weak in the area we are working in so if you cannot reach us and it is not urgent please leave a voicemail or send a text message to the above mobile phone number.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Jane R Jowett
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