

9<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Expedition

I would like to thank all of the DofE candidates for the hard work they have put into their three non-expedition Award sections (physical, skill and volunteering) to date. The range and quality of the work completed is extremely impressive.

As you will be aware, in addition to these sections, students are required to complete an expedition. Due to the size of the Year 9 DofE cohort this year, we will be splitting them across two weekends for their expedition. Expeditions will run on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June and Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June** and **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July and Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July** at Blackland Farm, East Grinstead. The expeditions are run by 4<sup>th</sup> Dimension at Blackland Farm who are qualified DofE assessors ([Home - Blackland Farm Outdoor Centre](#)). Students will only need to participate in one of these expedition weekends and will be assigned to a weekend by us.

**In order to determine the date for your child's expedition and their group, we are setting students a questionnaire to complete and this should be done before Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March. This can be accessed via this link: [Duke of Edinburgh Bronze expedition](#). Students have been told about this in assembly and should be aware of how to complete it. Students are more likely to be put with their chosen group if they are flexible with the date of the expedition. Please make your child aware of any date that they aren't available and the reason why so they can add this to the form.**

The expedition is a two-day walk, with camping overnight, during which students will cover approximately 25-30 kilometres. Students are expected to carry everything they need during the weekend at all times, including their tent, cooking equipment, and all their food. It is an extremely rewarding but challenging experience.

Further information regarding the expedition, for those who have signed up, will follow in a later letter which will include drop-off and pick-up timings and a kit list.

Students who are taking part in the expedition will need to have planned and prepared for it in advance. To enable this, we will be running training sessions to prepare students for all aspects of the expedition including route planning and first aid.

These sessions will run for an hour after school and are compulsory (there will be catch-up sessions prior to the expedition for students who are unable to attend due to prior commitments or illness). The sessions will start in the summer term.

The cost of the expedition is £148 payable in two instalments. Students in receipt of free school meals or experiencing financial difficulties may be eligible for a financial contribution towards the cost of the trip. Please contact [finance@kingsschoolhove.org.uk](mailto:finance@kingsschoolhove.org.uk) to discuss.

Students will need to be at Blackland Farm for 9am on 12<sup>th</sup> June. Please note that students must attend school on the Monday following their expedition. We understand that they might be tired following their exertions, but they have the Sunday to recover and participation in the Award programme should not lead to unnecessary absence from school.

If you have any queries regarding the Duke of Edinburgh programme, please contact me by emailing [p.wallace@kingsschoolhove.org.uk](mailto:p.wallace@kingsschoolhove.org.uk)

**When we have determined the expedition date for your child, we will add the cost to ParentPay and notify you.**

Thank you for your continued efforts in supporting your child to complete their DofE Award.

Yours faithfully,

Ms P Wallace  
*Duke of Edinburgh Programme Co-ordinator*