

Dear Parents and carers of Y9 Bronze DofE,

As we approach the end of the summer term, I would like to update you about the progress we have made in planning for this group of students Bronze Award.



Volunteering, physical and skill sections

Several students adapted their section choices in the lockdown, so that they were achievable. A massive switch in some cases and the students should be congratulated on their adaptability. Most have now spoken to their assessors and obtained their online reports. When these 3 sections are completed, students will be awarded a 'Certificate of Achievement' in recognition of these completed activities. All that then remains is the expedition to achieve the full Bronze Award, with the badge and certificate!

How can I receive my DofE Certificate of Achievement?

1. Complete your Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections
2. Get your Leader to approve them on eDofE by 31 December 2020
3. We'll email you your personalised Certificate!

dofe.org/dofewithadifference/achievement-for-all/



Expedition

This year group has completed all the training, planned their routes, and had the kit. They were ready to go and we were so confident they would do a good job. To catch up and complete the expedition section we plan to take the students on a combined practice and assessed expedition. The first day and night will count as the practice expedition, with the second 2 days and night as the assessed expedition. This will fulfil the assessment criteria for the Bronze expedition section. We have made bookings for the following but will review, as needed if the virus situation changes.

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| Thursday 25 th March 2021 | Leave School at 9am, by coach to the campsite at Truleigh Hill YHA. (It is actually well hidden on the South Downs, nearest town is Shoreham) Refresh the training completed in Jan/Feb 2020 and complete a training walk. We have some inside space to look at route plans, etc in the evening.

Students camp overnight at the YHA grounds. |
| Friday 26 th March 2021 | Staff plan to cook the students a hearty breakfast so that they get off to a great start on day one of their assessed expedition. They will then follow the majority of the route they planned in Feb 2020. Camping will be overnight at Streamside. |
| Saturday 27 th March 2021 | Complete day 2 of their assessed expedition as originally planned, finishing in Storrington. Our intention would be to hire a coach for the return, arriving back at School around 5.30pm |

Over the summer, it would be useful to practice their map reading skills! When they return from the expedition, they will just need their expedition assessor to complete their report and they will have finished their Bronze. It will be amazing!

Kit

The kit was issued to students in Feb 2020. Please keep it safely at home. It would be a logistical nightmare to collect in and reissue. It is expensive, tents £150, backpacks £60 and the Trangias are £65. Please don't lose it!

Next steps to Silver

As this year is unprecedented, we are very keen that students are not disadvantaged by the lockdown, which has not enabled the expedition section to be completed currently. If all the assessor's reports are completed for Bronze, the next step is to start the Silver. Activities used for Bronze can be continued for Silver and we are encouraging students to find activities they can continue to do from home. Normally, we would have launched Silver at the end of the summer term and had an assembly. Students will still be able to enrol on their Silver in September. Please encourage any friends who would like to join Silver but did not do Bronze. They would be classed as a direct entrant, completing slightly longer on their sections.



Expeditions for Silver

We have spent time planning this part of their Award carefully, to fit it in well with their GCSE's. The plan is as follows. (but maybe changed if the Government advice alters)

Over the summer holidays	Complete the online application for silver here. https://forms.gle/Nc8jLxsrw8Q8zRJA9 Pay the initial £30 for the 'online' place on edofe. The whole silver is £160 and can be paid in instalments. The online form has more details.
1 st September 2020	Begin sections on Silver, once the form is completed and the payment for the place has been made.
25 th – 27 th March 2021	Bronze assessed expedition
Wednesday 31 st March 2021	3.30-6pm students meet to plan the initial part of their Silver practice expedition.
15 th – 17 th April 2021	Silver training and practice expedition in the New Forest - more details will follow in the Autumn term, once we have final Silver numbers, etc

Assessed expedition

EITHER Sunday 27th June – Wednesday 30th June 2021 (White Peak)

OR Sunday 11th July – Wednesday 14th July 2021 (White Peak)

Provisional dates because we are unsure of the dates for the public exams 2021 and will need to amend the dates accordingly.

Kind regards, Cath Tanton ctn@priorycofe.com