

# SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

## ACADEMY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Prittlewell Chase, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS0 0RG  
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Headteacher: Robin M Bevan MA MEd PhD FRSA



April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Re: Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition 2024

The DofE expedition will take place on **27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024**. The boys should arrive ready to walk at the **Entrance to the Rochford Reservoir next to the Freight house in Rochford Station car park** (what3words – lime.margin.pushy), with their rucksacks suitably packed following the guidance they have been given. Students will need to **arrive at 9:00am for groups 1-4, 9:20am for groups 5-8 and 9:40am for groups 9-12**. Students have been told their groups, but a list will be published on Satchel one for the students to check.

As the weather is very changeable at this time of year, the kit is also liable to change, and students should be checking the weather before they pack to know whether a sun hat or woolly hat will be more appropriate, for example. Currently the weekend's forecast is overcast but with no forecast rain, highs of 12°C in the day and lows of 8°C at night. **No student will be able to walk if they do not have a raincoat, a sleeping bag, and appropriate amount of water (about 2L) and a first aid kit with any necessary medications as indicated by the medical form.**

Students will be given their part of the group kit in the week before the expedition. They must have this packed in their bag for the expedition. Students will be informed when they are due to collect their group kit via Satchel One.

Students will not be able to use their mobile phones during the expedition. We ask that all groups have at least **one mobile phone available in case of emergencies**. These will be taped into a waterproof bag and will not be opened unless needed. Students who bring mobile phones will be able to phone their parents to let them know a more accurate finishing time on the Sunday. Groups that wish to take photographs during the expedition may do so on a mobile phone, but will need to remove the SIM card. Any phones brought on expedition are at the owner's risk.

We expect that the boys should be finishing around **14:00-15:00 on the Sunday**, but please do not leave home until your son has called you, as this is only an estimate. The actual arrival time will depend on the group's departure time in the morning and their navigational ability. The end point for the expedition is the same as the drop off at **The Freight House in Rochford Station Car Park** (what3words – lime.margin.pushy). Please be aware that when your son's group arrives, they will have a 5-10 minute debrief before being dismissed and will need their full kit on them for this, so please wait for them to come to you.



The **assessed weekend** will follow the same pattern and will be on **18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May**. Drop off will be at **Hatfield Peverel Village Hall** (what3words – model.tour.tank) on the Saturday and collection from **Bicknacre Memorial Hall** (what3words – match.wedge.snuggled) on the Sunday.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via [KS4admin@shsb.org.uk](mailto:KS4admin@shsb.org.uk).

Yours sincerely,

Mr Sweeting  
Trip Organiser