



# ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

May 2016

Dear Parents and Students

## **Year 12 Gold Duke of Edinburgh Assessed Expedition 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016**

The Year 12 Gold Duke of Edinburgh Assessed Expedition will take place in the North Yorkshire Moors from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016. Students need to be at school by **7.45am** on Monday 18<sup>th</sup>. We return to school at approximately 6.00pm on the Thursday evening, hopefully after a fish and chip stop on the way home! We will travel together by coach – there is, inevitably, some flexibility needed regarding the return time as it largely depends on the progress of the groups, but your son/daughter will be in contact with you if this time needs to be revised. Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July has been reserved for kit return and report writing. Students **must** be available on this day to return tents, rucksacks, Trangias and any other kit they have borrowed. Groups should return their kit to LES between 9am and 11am.

Kit (group and individual) will be picked up on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July at 4pm from LES.

The participants will be walking unaccompanied in groups of 5 or more and will be assessed during the four-day expedition by an independent assessor appointed by the North Yorkshire Moors Expedition Panel. Staff will check the progress of the groups on a regular basis and will stay nearby. Students will be given emergency contact details nearer the time. If parents or guardians need to contact students during the week please either contact school on 01423 885814 or, out of school hours, contact Miss Phillpotts on 07824 883 661.

Following the expedition, each participant is required to write a brief, reflective report. This is a compulsory part of the Expedition section which must be completed and submitted to the assessor. There will be an IT room available on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> for the students to work in their groups to produce the report. If the report is incomplete, students must meet up with their groups over the Summer and hand the report in at the beginning of the school year.

As always, information relating to health and emergency contacts will be taken from the medical form filled in when your son/daughter entered the Sixth Form. If there are any amendments to this information please write them on the Consent Form. If your son/daughter's medical details indicate that they need medication such as inhalers or hay fever medication, please ensure that they bring them on the trip; otherwise we will be unable to take them.

Please pay £60 either via Parent Pay or by cheque (please make cheques payable to *St Aidan's School Fund* and write the pupil name and 'Gold DofE' on the reverse). **We would ask that all students return the paper consent form regardless of whether consent has been indicated on Parent Pay.**

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

St. Aidan's Church of England High School, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8JR

Tel: 01423 885814 • Fax: 01423 884327 • Email: [admin@staidans.co.uk](mailto:admin@staidans.co.uk) • [www.staidans.co.uk](http://www.staidans.co.uk)



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As the purpose of the expedition is to be self-sufficient for 4 days we would ask that students **do not** bring mobile phones on the expedition (except for the nominated students acting as an emergency contact for their group). We would please ask parents to help support us in this by not contacting students unnecessarily during the expedition, nor encouraging students to contact home.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at school if you have any questions about the expedition. Thank you for your continued support of your son/daughter's participation in the Award.

Yours faithfully

Miss Phillpotts  
Gold Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

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I consent to my son/daughter taking part in the above Expedition and enclose a cheque for £60.00. I also confirm that any changes to the Medical/Emergency Contact details provided on entering Sixth Form are listed below:

Signed Parent/Guardian ..... Date:.....

Student's Name:..... Tutor Group:.....

**Please return directly to Miss Collins or Miss Phillpotts by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May.**

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