



10 February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'm delighted to let you know that King's Academy Easthampstead Park is making good progress with the students undertaking their Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE).

Students have already met to discuss details of their Silver expedition. As you are aware, both the practice and assessed expeditions are essential in the completion of the Silver DofE award and so students must attend both. Students are also responsible for planning the location and route. Your child will be assessed on the DofE's 20 conditions and must comply with these in order to successfully complete the qualifying expedition. A copy of these 20 conditions can be found at <https://www.dofe.org/20conditions>.

The expeditions will take place on the following dates:

- Practice expedition: South Downs
When: Friday 20th June 2025 11am
Meet point: King's Academy Easthampstead Park
Pick Up: Sunday 22nd June 2025 4pm approx.
(Students will let parents know when we are leaving)
King's Academy Easthampstead Park

This is a practice expedition so students are expected to carry their full expedition pack. This will enable them to fully appreciate the challenge they are undertaking and make reasonable and informed adjustments for their final assessed expedition.

- Qualifying expedition: New Forest
When: Friday 4th July 2025 11am
Meet point: King's Academy Easthampstead Park
Pick Up: Sunday 6th July 2025 (Time to be confirmed)
King's Academy Easthampstead Park

During the practice and qualifying expeditions, we will be remotely supervising your child. This involves the safety and well-being of a group being monitored from a distance, with limited direct contact with the group. Remote supervision can take different forms and instructors will move between different types of remote supervision to ensure that the safety of a group is managed without compromising the expedition experience. At Silver level students are expected to be more independent and receive less guidance and help.

With this in mind, the great experiences for your child of the expedition section include being away with friends, team-bonding, problem solving, and developing independence. As such, please understand that students will not have use of their phones so will not be contactable during their expedition. Mobile phones will only be used for tracking and safety purposes and will be placed in a 'tamper-evident' bag. Should you need to contact your child in the case of an emergency, please call the staff phone on 07957 479252.

Your child will be given full training on what equipment they need, what is suitable, what's not and what they should think about leaving at home. It is very easy to 'do it for them'. At the time this may feel helpful but we find more often that non-essential items are packed. Please can we ask that you support your child's learning by allowing them the opportunity to pack their own rucksack.

Students will require the items listed. As you are already aware, we received some funding in order to run this course. As a result, some of the equipment (marked with an asterisk) can be provided by us if required.

Finally, please complete the forms on ParentPay giving your permission, contact details and any relevant medical information for your child.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us via email sarah.burrows@kgaeasthampstead.uk or paul.couldridge@kgaeasthampstead.uk.

We are really looking forward to seeing our this DofE cohort completing their expeditions successfully.

Yours sincerely,



Miss S Burrows



Mr P Couldridge