



21st May 2019

Les Gravées, St Peter Port
Guernsey, GY1 1RW

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award Information

Training weekend 1st & 2nd June

Qualifying weekend 29th & 30th June

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Dear Parents,

Below we have provided you with some information based on a few recent enquiries' about your daughter's award.

I have already filled in an OA4 Parents' Consent Form; why do you need another?

We have received most of the OA4 forms for the 1st & 2nd June weekend. We require a second form for the 29th & 30th weekend as it is a separate trip. These forms are then passed onto the DofE office based at the Youth Commission. Each individual trip carries its own set of paperwork and approval procedures. We are aware that medical conditions and needs can change and we need to keep this information as up to date as possible.

What do I need to pay?

You will have paid £15 for the 1st & 2nd June weekend, and a second payment of £15 is required to cover the cost of the second weekend at the end of June. This small cost per person goes towards campsite fees, replacing camping gas, and the almost yearly replacement of tents and camping stoves.

Can you explain the two weekends?

Your daughter needs to complete training and a qualifying weekend in order to complete her expedition phase of her Bronze award. The 1st & 2nd June is a training weekend. Although students are no longer required to do a practice expedition, we feel that it is beneficial to provide some training so she will gather all the skills she will require to complete her self-supported qualifying walk at the end of June under assessor conditions. This also allows the students to bond in their respective expedition groups, and for some this will be the first time they will have had exposure to this environment. The Silver and Gold awards also require participants to complete two expeditions in the same way.

During the training weekend we will cover all aspects of camp craft, cooking, food, stove safety, first aid, tent building and packing back packs. Tents and stoves will be provided at the campsite, but your daughter will need to arrive with all her other kit in a backpack. (Kit list provided in my previous letter).

On her qualifying weekend (29th & 30th June), your daughter will have collected her tent and stove from school before the weekend. She will arrive with all her kit packed and waterproofed, and she will be carrying all her food and snacks that she needs for the weekend. They will plan to walk between 24-32km over the duration of the two days. She will be assigned an assessor who will have a duty of care to one group, and will arrange to meet them at various points during the walk. All the groups then camp together for the evening.

When will they plan for their Qualifying walk?

Route planning training will be done over the training weekend on 1st & 2nd June. During this time, they will learn how to navigate and plot a route on a map and correctly fill in a route card. All this information is then submitted to the DofE office at the Youth Commission, and will be logged as an official DofE expedition.

Mobile Phones

Your daughter will not require her mobile phone during the training weekend on 1st & 2nd June. We strongly suggest she leaves this at home. During her qualifying walk on 29th & 30th June groups are required to have two phones per team. These must be fully charged, switched off and sealed in a waterproof bag. Mobile phones are NOT to be used except in the event of an emergency. All staff will be carrying all emergency/parent contact details (OA4) should we need to contact you.

What meals do we need?

Your daughter will need to bring some food to cook on a small Trangia stove on the Saturday evening. Boil in the bags are a great easy option, and can be found in the camping shops as well as Sports Direct and Waitrose. If she prefers she can liaise with her group and they can cook as a team. Pasta with sauce is a popular choice! She will need to bring a packed lunch, some snacks and something for breakfast. She must also bring a refillable water bottle. Please treat this training weekend like an expedition, so please refrain from purchasing large bottles of fizzy drinks, big tubs of Pringles or any other items that are not compatible with being packed in a backpack.

Kit List

I have attached a kit list to my previous letter to help with packing the essentials. Please do not bring phone chargers, iPod's, iPad's, music speakers or any other electrical items that have not been approved for use on the expedition.

What do I need to do for my daughter?

Can we please ask that all paperwork and payments are submitted by the date requested. Once we know you are committed to the weekend, this enables us to make bookings much faster and to secure the correct amount of staff to supervise the groups.

Contact Details

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

lmitchinson@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Fingers crossed for some great weather and we hope they all have an enjoyable training weekend!

Yours sincerely



Miss L. Mitchinson (D of E Co-ordinator)

The Ladies' College