



Friday 28 February

Polo Shirt Distribution Wednesday 12 March and Training Day 15 March 2025

Dear Parent / Carer

In preparation for the upcoming Training Day for Silver DofE, I wanted to update you on timings, purpose and expectations for the students on the day and to inform you that the Polo Shirts that were ordered earlier in the year have arrived and will be distributed after school on Wednesday 12 March.

Students should head to the theatre at 3.15pm on the 12 and will receive their shirt then. I will also meet with them briefly to discuss the expectations for the Training Day, as detailed below. They should be finished on 12 March by 4.15pm at the latest.

Regarding the Training Day, firstly, it was suggested that the training could take place over both the 15 and 16 March with a camp at school on the night of Saturday 15. However, with the uncertainty of inclement and potentially freezing weather due in the next couple of weeks, an adjustment has been made, and the training will now **only** take place on **Saturday 15 March from 9.00 am until 5.00pm.**

Please remember, in preparation for our expeditions, your child **must** complete this training and will not be able to undertake the expedition section of the award unless this training is completed in full. During the training, students will be looking at their eDofE profiles and assessing their progression with this so far; planning their routes for their qualifying expedition around The Long Mynd which is taking place on 11 -13 July 2025 and then undertaking the main part of the training which involves: understanding basic First Aid and what to do in an emergency situation; what to wear on expedition and how to pack their bag; how to use the Trangia burners safely including the use of meths, meths' bottles and lighters; how to set up their tent and then maintain the area in and around their tent; how to successfully use a map and navigate their way around; how to maintain road safety and adhere to the countryside code and how to maintain energy levels by choosing the right foods to eat whilst on expedition.

Students will need to arrive promptly for 9.00am in suitable clothing for both indoor and outdoor activities. These clothes should be not excessively water absorbing as students will be outside at times and, as students may need to kneel or sit on the floor, these clothes need to be suited to being muddy. Of course, it would be great if students were to wear their polo shirts on this day. Students should bring their own packed lunch for the day and a drink and snacks to last them throughout the day. There will not be the provision to buy food during the day but there will be water fountains available should they wish to refill a bottle.

As this is an extra-curricular activity but still affiliated to the school and there will be members of the general public on-site at times, students need to behave in a manner that is befitting of one of our students and a DofE participant. Equally, the cost for any damage to school property and the maintenance of the school in preparation for normal school proceedings on the following Monday, will be incurred by the DofE Department and so the reparations for any additional costs will be felt by future DofE participants. For this reason, anyone who does not behave in an acceptable manner or who causes any damage to school property will be removed from the day, parents will be contacted

and, because they will not have completed the training, will not be allowed to partake in the expeditions later in the year.

Please also remember that the Practice Expedition will take place on **5- 7 June 2025** and the Qualifying Expedition for Silver will take place on the weekend of the **11 - 13 July 2025**. Further details of both of these will follow soon.

If there are any queries or concerns regarding Silver DofE, especially the training day, please contact me using the below details.

Yours faithfully,



Mr James Barrett

DofE and The King's Trust Coordinator

Tel: 01926 338711 x8614

jbarrett@northleamington.co.uk