

Dear Parent/Carer

Rescheduled Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expedition 23-24 May 2026

The expedition will now take place on 23 - 24 May 2026. Students will be hiking, camping and practising vital skills such as teamwork, independence and navigation while achieving an aim that they have agreed between themselves before departure.

Drop off time and location:

09:00 Saturday 23rd May at the public car park behind the Three Bishops pub, main road, Brighstone, PO30 4AH.

Collection time and location: 16:00: Yarmouth Green, Yarmouth PO41 0RB. This timing is approximate and students / teachers will contact home should this change.

Cost: £10 per student. Payable via Arbor app. **If you paid for the postponed expedition in March, you do not need to pay again.** This covers the cost of campsite fees, cooking gas and other equipment.

Camp site: The group will be camping at Camp Wight, Ningwood Hill, Yarmouth PO41 0XP.

Equipment: Attached is the kit list. Students must bring everything on the clothing and personal kit list (unless it states optional). If students need to borrow equipment, please contact me. Tents and group equipment will be provided. We can also supply rucksacks, waterproofs, sleeping bags and mats and other items. Students will be carrying everything that they bring so they should avoid bringing items that are not on the list.

Food: Students need to bring their own food and drink (water will be provided) as they should be self-sufficient for the two days. A packed lunch is appropriate for lunch on the first day. They then need to bring food to cook for evening meal and food for breakfast and lunch the following day. Students have had training on the best types of food to bring and should have organised to cook as a group. They should also bring snacks such as energy bars and some emergency rations.

Home contact: Our school home contact for the two days will be Anna Mursell, head of school. In the event of an emergency, she can be contacted on 07933172679.

During the two days, students will be supervised and assessed by members of staff. They will be working as a team and navigating, hiking, making camp, cooking together and striking camp the following morning. On the expedition the team will at all times be supervised remotely. This means that a Supervisor will not constantly be accompanying the team, nor will they be in constant sight or sound of the Supervisor. The group will have a GPS tracker. The Supervisor and assessor will meet up with the team on a few occasions during the day and will see the team in the evening at the camp site. This allows the Supervisor to check on the team's safety and welfare whilst still allowing the team the experience of being on their own.

Students need to know that this is the qualifying expedition for the bronze award which means that they will be assessed for the full 2 days.

Please complete the attached consent form and return to the library at Medina or email directly to me. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on:

helen.mccarthy@theislandviform.org.uk

Yours faithfully,

Helen McCarthy
DofE Manager
Geography / Travel and Tourism teacher

Other important information:

1. This is an Award and it is about teamwork, independence and leadership.
2. Route cards must be completed by students by Monday 19th May. Most groups have nearly finished this.
3. Phone rules: One phone only can be turned on per group during the day to complete their aim. Any others can only be used for emergency situations and must not be in sight for most of the time. They must be turned off once in their tent. Social media should not be used during the expedition.
4. No other electronic items are allowed. No loudspeakers in the countryside – please don't bring them.
5. Participants may be sent home and fail the Award if their behaviour falls below the expectations of the Duke of Edinburgh Award and the school.
6. Any borrowed items need to be returned at the end of the trip.
7. There may be no showers available onsite, so please take this into consideration when packing. Bring your own toilet roll...just in case!
8. Bring a bag to put your dirty shoes in on the way home in case of rain and mud.
9. Students may not go into shops until the expedition is completed and they have been passed and directed by the Assessor and staff.
10. All teacher/instructor/assessor instructions must be followed by participants, or it will be deemed unsafe for that pupil to be there.
11. Any students who have not returned all their information about medical issues and consent forms etc. will not be allowed to participate.

Kit list

CLOTHING

| Item Needed | Specific items we recommend | Got it | Packed it |
|---|---|--------|-----------|
| 1 pair of walking boots (broken in) | Hi-Tec: Eurotrek Lite WP, Aysgarth WP, Summit WP, V-Lite Explorer WP, Ravine WP, Raven Mid WP, V-Lite Reflex WP, Jackdaw WP, Bandera Expedition WP and Fuse Trek Mid WP | | |
| 2 pairs of walking socks | Bridgedale: HIKE range Men's and Women's: Midweight, Lightweight and Ultralight Merino Performance, Midweight and Lightweight Merino Comfort, Lightweight and Ultralight Coolmax Performance, Junior Merino Comfort | | |
| 2 pairs of sock liners (optional) | Bridgedale: LINERS Base Layer Coolmax Liner | | |
| Jacket/coat (waterproof and windproof) | Craghoppers: Vanth and Ossus Waterproof Jackets | | |
| Waterproof overtrousers | Craghoppers: Ascent Overtrousers | | |
| 2 fleece tops or similar | Craghoppers: Tarvos, Esk and Travos Hooded Jackets and Half Zip Fleece | | |
| 2-3 t-shirts (thermal optional) | Craghoppers: Charon or Ellie T-Shirt | | |
| 2 walking trousers (warm, NOT jeans) | Craghoppers: Brisk and Mirnas Trousers and Alex Leggings | | |
| 1 pair of shorts (if appropriate) | Craghoppers: Brisk Shorts | | |
| Underwear | | | |
| Nightwear | | | |
| Flip flops/sandals (optional for camp site use) | | | |
| Warm hat and/or sunhat (as appropriate) | | | |
| 1 pair of gloves (if appropriate) | | | |
| 1 pair of gaiters (optional) | | | |

PERSONAL KIT

| Item Needed | Specific items we recommend | Got it | Packed it |
|---|--|--------|-----------|
| Rucksack | Vango: Contour, Sherpa, Summit and Denali Pro rucksacks | | |
| Rucksack liner (or 2 strong plastic bags) | Lifeventure: Ultralight Dry Bags (2/5/10/15/25/35/55/75L) and Compression Sacks (5/10/15L) | | |
| Sleeping bag | Vango: Nitestar, Latitude, Ultralite Pro, Olympus Pro, Zenith, Microlite, Stratos and Mantis | | |
| Sleeping mat | Vango: Trek Pro, Single Trek, Dreamer mats | | |
| Waterproof bag | Lifeventure: Ultralight Dry Bags, Stormlight Dry Bags | | |
| Sleeping bag liner (optional) | Lifeventure: Cotton sleeping bag liners | | |
| Whistle | Lifesystems: Safety, Echo, Hurricane whistles | | |
| Torch (handheld/head torch and spare batteries) | Lifesystems: Intenisty 580, Intensity 300 and Intensity 155 head torches | | |
| Personal first aid kit | Lifesystems: Camping, Trek, Blister, Waterproof first aid kits. Visit DofE.org/shopping/safety | | |
| Food (including emergency rations) | Wayfayrer: ready to eat expedition food Radix: dehydrated meals and breakfasts Get advice at DofE.org/shopping/food | | |
| Water bottle | Lifeventure: Tritan Flask (1000ml), Tritan Flip-Top Bottle (750ml), Tritan Bottle (650ml) | | |
| Cutlery** | Lifeventure: Stainless steel, Ellipse, Titanium knife, fork and spoon sets | | |
| Plate/bowl | Lifeventure: Stainless steel camping bowl, camping plate, Titanium plate, Ellipse plate, bowl, collapsible bowl | | |

GROUP KIT (To carry between the team)

| Item Needed | Specific items we recommend | Got it | Packed it |
|---|---|--------|-----------|
| Tent(s) | Vango Trek Tents: Nevis, Scafell, Helvellyn, Nova, Banshee Vango Trek Pro: Apex Compact, Apex Geo, Halo, Omega, Cairngorm, Braemar | | |
| Camping stove(s) | Trangia: 25 and 27 series, Gas burner, Liquid fuel burner Vango: Folding gas stoves | | |
| Camping stove fuel*** (in an appropriate and safe container) | Trangia: Fuel bottles (0.3/0.5/1L) | | |
| Cooking pans | | | |
| Scourers | | | |
| Tin opener (if required) | | | |
| Tea towels | | | |
| Plastic bags (for rubbish etc.) | | | |
| Toilet paper and trowel | | | |
| Maps [1:25 000/1:50 000] | Ordnance Survey: Explorer, Landranger maps (standard or weatherproof) | | |
| Compass | Silva: Classic, Field, Ranger, Expedition 4 and Starter 123 compasses | | |
| Map cases | Silva: Waterproof Map Case Medium, Waterproof Lite Map Case Medium | | |
| Camera (optional) | | | |
| Tick remover (location dependent - ask your Supervisor) | | | |
| Survival bag | Lifesystems: Heatshield, Survival, Thermal bags, Thermal blankets | | |

ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL KIT (for you to consider)

| Item Needed | Specific items we recommend | Got it | Packed it |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------|-----------|
| Head/Neck scarf | | | |
| Hydration pack | Vango: 2L Hydration pack | | |
| Storm shelter | Vango: Storm shelters | | |
| Stove multidisc (lid/cutting board) | Trangia: Multidisc 25 series, Multidisc 27 series | | |
| Pre-packed expedition food | Wayfayrer: ready to eat expedition food Radix: dehydrated meals and breakfasts | | |
| Small pocket tool** | | | |
| After-sun cream | | | |
| Sunglasses | | | |
| Insect repellent | Lifesystems: Expedition 50 PRO and Expedition Natural insect repellents | | |
| Stopwatch | | | |
| Waterproofing (pre-expedition) | Nikwax: Tech Wash Cleaner, TX.Direct Wash-in Reproofers, Footwear Cleaning Gel, Waterproofing Wax for Leather, Fabric and Leather Proof, Nubuck and Suede Proof, Tent and Gear Solarproof, Tent and Gear Solarwash | | |
| String | | | |
| Spare boot laces | | | |
| Walking poles | Vango: Pico, Camino and Kesugi walking poles | | |