



Parent's information For DofE Training Weekend 15th – 17th March 2019.

Please note there is a meal provided on the Friday evening

Transport - The coach's will leave **Both School** at **5.00pm** on the Friday Evening. 2 leaders will meet you and accompany them on the coach and the journey to The Peat Rigg centre should take approximately 90 minutes. Your son / daughter will need to be collected at **4.30pm** on the Sunday evening again from their respective Schools. If your son / daughter needs travel sickness tablets please make sure they have them in time to travel and supply the appropriate tablets for the return journey.

Late home procedure. - If we are going to be late home then you will be contacted by your son / daughter who will give you a more accurate time. We will endeavour to give you at least 45 minutes notice prior to the above time. Please make sure we have some way of contacting you and I will need to know this before we go. You can also now get updates from the DofE Blog on the Ridgewood School Website. Also all information will be posted on the C and R DofE Parents Information Group on the Facebook page

Food for the Expedition – This year all the food is provided at the centre – please let me know ASAP if there are any dietary requirements so I can advise the centre.

Expedition equipment – No specific requirements are needed for this weekend apart from a small Daysack / Small Rucksack (**not** the normal ones we issue)

Everything they are bringing with them needs to be packed in a holdall / small suitcase for this training weekend only. Please can you label the bags with your son / daughter's name on it. They will need a small daysack of some type (we do not have these in our stores) Please send them with some plastic bags for dirty wet clothes.

Should any electrical items be needed for the weekend i.e. hair dryers etc, can I please ask that you ensure they are electrically sound. Due to the often-high cost of items I would like to point out that they are the responsibility of the individual and the Club accepts no responsibility for loss or damage and these items are not covered on the Trip Insurance. There is Wi-Fi in the centre but this is not available to the students – if more than 2 people try to log on, it crashes!! So again, there is no point bringing iPads etc.

We have also attached a full kit list of items that is needed.

Contact with Parents / Guardian – due to the problems that were encountered on previous expedition we are trying to make each young person self-sufficient and not

to rely on technology, with this in mind we will be asking that there is no contact with parents or friends during the weekend. Mobiles for the journeys are allowed but must be handed in at the centre.

Emergency procedure – The emergency contact for the weekend is as follows

Andy Broad second contact for Campsmount Students - 0759 5599441

Philippa Wilde for the Ridgewood students – 07442507335

I would like to take this opportunity to advise parents that in the unlikely event that your son / daughter should become unwell on the weekend you will be asked to fetch them from the centre. I'm sorry I have to take this approach, but with the limited VOLUNTEER staff I have, these are best employed looking after the remaining young people who are still out walking rather than two leaders transporting the sick person home.

Supervision at the Centre – the centre is split into 2 Houses which has made it very easy to split the sexes up (makes life so much easier) all the training activities are supervised and each person is expected to undertake each one.

I would also advise that the ground conditions are very wet and muddy, it is not therefore advisable to wear walking trainers. There has been an increase in sprained ankles over the past Season and this is directly attributed to the ground conditions and the footwear being worn. If your child has this type of footwear please contact me ASAP so I can try and obtain some more suitable boots for them. It is also advised if you have them; a pair of wellies would be a good item to have with them.

If you have any concerns or would like to know any further information please contact me on either my Home Number 780688 or mobile 07860117399.

Phil Hulbert. DofE Manager