

18 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Cancellation of the Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition

We regret to inform you that we have had to take the difficult decision to cancel the Bronze and Silver practice expedition for the Duke of Edinburgh Award that is due to take place in April. I am sure that you understand that these are unprecedented times and that information regarding the Coronavirus outbreak changes daily.

As you are aware, the Duke of Edinburgh award is mainly self-directed. Students are able to complete several of the other sections from home. Below are a couple of suggestions of some activities that students could complete:

- Saint Johns Ambulance has a great self-directed skill plan (<https://www.sja.org.uk/globalassets/documents/dofe/dofeselfteachworkbook.pdf>)
- iDEA is a free award and platform centred around developing digital, enterprise and employability skills – This is a great skill section. (<https://idea.org.uk/faqs/organisers/learner-management/173%7Cidea-and-the-duke-of-edinburghs-award>)
- Switching physical activities to something based at home using apps such as e.g. Army Fit or the 100 press up challenge, Yoga fit
- For volunteering, consider something that can be based from home – keeping in touch with members of the community via social platforms, raising awareness for causes close to them or other ways to give their time to others without direct contact.

We will endeavour to ensure that all students will still be able to complete their expedition element of the course in July. We will use the first day of the expedition as a training exercise and the second day as a qualifying event. This will mean that all students will be able to use the July expedition to complete their award.

We will endeavour to keep you updated via the schools website of any further developments.

Yours faithfully

Ms E. Conroy/Mr C Barnes

Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinators