



Penistone Grammar School

Never Stop Flying

Principal: Mr P Crook (B.Ed Hons)

Huddersfield Road, Penistone, Sheffield, S36 7BX

www.penistone-gs.uk

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01226 762114

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Achieving Excellence through a Values Driven Education

Ref: RHU/CWA

Date: 20 November 2025

Dear Parent/Carer of StudentNAME

Thank you for your patience while we have finalised details around expeditions. This letter is for students who are currently in year 10.

This letter outlines;

1. Important dates
2. Final balance
3. Consent
4. Expectations and Level of supervision
5. Kit list and Go Outdoors
6. What to expect on each event

There has been a monumental amount of work behind the scenes from organising staffing to fine tuning the logistics of two training days and four expeditions. I am now able to share with you the timeline of events and to ask for your permission for your son/daughter to attend each of the elements that form part of the expedition section of their Duke of Edinburgh Award. All these dates have already been shared with students. Reminders of key information will be sent out prior to each event including emergency contact numbers for each one.

1. Important dates

Event	Date	Time	Location
Initial training for practice expedition (if not attending after school sessions)	Saturday 7 th February	8.30am-3.30pm	Penistone Grammar School
Practice Walk	Saturday 7 th March	To be confirmed with students as they will arrive at staggered times	Penistone Grammar School
Training prior to Assessed expedition (if not attending after school sessions)	Monday 4 th May	8.30am-3.30pm	Penistone Grammar School
Bronze Assessed expedition	Sunday 12 th July - Monday 13 th July	Students to arrive at staggered times during the morning. Students will contact parents once they have finished this it likely to be any time between 1pm-6pm.	Thurgoland



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2. Final balance

There is also a balance of £79.50 left to pay. This will cover all site fees and transport costs. Students will be expected to bring their own food for each day and discussions on what is best to bring on expedition will be explained on the training days. This amount can be paid in instalments, but all final payments must be in by 22nd May.

3. Consent

Please provide consent via parent pay. On giving consent, you are agreeing to your child taking part in the above activity and have read the information provided agreeing to his/her participation in the activities described. You are also agreeing to your child receiving any emergency medical treatment that may be deemed necessary. If there are any exceptions to this, please provide us with the necessary information in writing. We need permission for photos for school use, medical information, and parent consent. This trip is non-refundable.

It is vitally important that should any of the details given on the consent form change prior to any of the above dates that you inform reception so that our medical records are accurate at all times.

4. Expectations and Level of Supervision

Students are expected to behave in an exemplary manner as ambassadors of the school. Students will need to follow instructions from staff. Should the conduct of a student in the lead up to, or during the visit, be deemed either unacceptable or likely to put the health, wellbeing, safety and/or enjoyment of other students on the trip at risk, the Principal reserves the right to withdraw that student's place from the visit, or they may be returned home prior to the end of the visit. All school policies will be in place during the visit with the only change being to mobile phones.

Students will be able to carry their mobile phones in case of emergency on expedition. These will be put into a plastic bag that is sealed with tape, so they do not use them unless it is an emergency. Students will be asked to download "what 3 words" app.

Each group will also be carrying a tracker so their location can be found at any stage by staff. Throughout the expedition section students will be remotely supervised. This will mean that although students will be met by staff throughout the day, it will be sporadic. Mobile phone coverage is available along most of the route so students can get in touch with staff in an emergency.

5. Kit List and Go Outdoors

I have attached the Duke of Edinburgh Recommended Kit List and the Expedition Kit Guide.

All groups will be issued with tents, Trangia for cooking, gas, compass, maps, storm shelters and first aid kits as part of the standard issue school equipment.

We do have large rucksacks and roll mats which can be hired from school, these do have a minimal hire fee to cover general wear and tear.



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Kit will be explained in more details to students during the after school or training day sessions. Any equipment which is damaged/not returned beyond the usual wear and tear will be expected to be replaced by students. All students will have received appropriate training on the use of the specialist equipment.

6. Outline of each event

Below I'll outline what students can expect from each element of the expedition.

Initial training for practice expedition

Students have been assigned to either after school sessions on a week A or to the two training days (Saturday 7th February and Monday 4th May). Which sessions your child should attend has been shared with them directly via the Duke of Edinburgh team channel.

Outline of Training Day 1

08:30 Students will sign in on arrival and be split into two groups.

08:45 Students will then work through the following elements of the DofE Expedition training framework;

- Countryside and Highway codes
- Equipment
- Hygiene
- First Aid, Health and Safety issues and Emergency procedures
- Navigation and compass skills
- Route planning

12:00 Lunch

12:30 Students will finish the day planning their route for their practice expedition and creating a route card.

It would be useful for students to have a notebook and pen. They will also need their own lunch and drinks. Students will not be allowed to leave school site during lunch.

Practice Walk

08:00 – 10:00 Students arrive at given times

08:00: Students walk in groups of 4-7 on a loop, from and to school.

14.00 – 16:00. Students picked up from school, or to walk home if they live locally

Students should bring all the food with them that they will need, and a sturdy, full water container which carries at least a litre. They will need their lunch and snacks.

Training Day 2

09:00 Students will sign in on arrival and sit in their expedition groups to reflect on their practice expedition and decide on a group aim for their expedition.



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09:30 Students will go hopefully outside (weather permitting) to learn how to safely operate a Trangia fire and pitch tents.

11:00 Students will look at planning their menu and shopping list for expedition.

12:00 Lunch

12:30 Students will plan their route for their assessed expedition and create the route cards.

It would be useful for students to have a notebook and pen. They will also need their own lunch and drinks. Students will not be allowed to leave school site during lunch.

Bronze Assessed expedition.

07:30-10:00 Students will arrive in Thurgoland at given times. These will be shared with students.

Students will then walk from Thurgoland to Hesley Wood on their preplanned routes.

14:00-16:00 Students will arrive at Hesley Wood, set up camp and cook a meal a warm evening meal.

08:00-10:00 on Sunday Students will leave camp at staggered times and walk back to Thurgoland

14:00-16:00 Students will arrive back to Thurgoland and will be able to be picked up or walk home if they live locally (although their legs will be very tired so will probably appreciate a lift). Any groups that finish prior to the end of the school day will be offered a lift back to school to catch the school busses but this should not be relied on as students are often slower than anticipated on the second day.

Students will need their own food as planned during the after school sessions or the second training day. They will need equipment as stated on the kit list attached.

Campsite details for Assessed expedition:

Hesley Wood Scout Activity Centre

White Lane

Chapelton

S35 2YH

01142467912

Kind Regards

Rachael Hunter

Duke of Edinburgh Manager