



16 May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award Qualifying Expedition: 9 -16 July 2025

I am writing with details of the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award qualifying expedition to the Lake District from Wednesday 9 July 2025 to Wednesday 10 July 2025.

Students have been provided with kit lists and already have all the group kit needed. Students may bring one bag into school before Tuesday 9 July to be transported separately to the Lake District, if they prefer not to carry it on the train.

On Wednesday 9 July students will meet at the information point in the main forecourt of London Euston Station no later than 10.00am to catch the 10.30am train to Penrith. This is scheduled to arrive in Penrith at 1.31pm. On arrival in Penrith there will be an opportunity to purchase lunch from food establishments in the town, and to shop in Morrisons supermarket to purchase food to cook for meals for the next few days and the practice expedition. After shopping is complete minibus transport will be provided to take the students about 1 hour's drive to Ennerdale Scout Centre (Cleator CA23 3AS), which will be the main base for the duration of the expedition. Students will be camping for most nights of the trip, though the first and the last nights may be in a bed. All activities will be organised and supervised by The Education People (Kent) DofE staff, our chosen Approved Activity Provider.

On Thursday 10 July there will be an accompanied practice walk and camp. On Friday 11 July students will be taken to Whitehaven where they will be able to purchase supplies for their 4-day qualifying expedition and purchase a meal from a café or restaurant in the town.

From Saturday 12 July to Tuesday 15 July students will be completing their 4-day assessed qualifying expedition. Students will be following a route they have planned from Ennerdale Water to Borrowdale, then West to Langdale, finishing in Glenridding on Tuesday 15 July. On the Tuesday evening students will present their purpose work to the assessors to complete the expedition section of the award.

On Wednesday 16 July students will return via minibus to Penrith and catch the 10.03am train from Penrith to London, scheduled to arrive in Euston Station at 1.12pm. Students will be dismissed from Euston to make their own way back home. Some luggage can be transported separately back to Newstead Wood School, and this will be available for collection on Thursday 17 July.

Students must bring any medication that is listed on the school system (Arbor). We cannot take students who do not have their medication. Please log in to the parent portal and check what medication is listed for your

Headteacher: Mr Alan Blount, MA, BSc, QTS

Newstead Wood School is part of United Learning. United Learning comprises: UCST (Registered in England No: 2780748. Charity No. 1016538) and ULT (Registered in England No. 4439859. An Exempt Charity). Companies limited by guarantee. VAT number 834 8515 12. Registered address: United Learning, Worldwide House, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough, PE3 6SB.

Newstead Wood School
Avebury Road
Orpington
Kent
t: 01689 853626
e: office@newsteadwood.co.uk
w: newsteadwood.co.uk



daughter or son. If this is not up to date or lists medication that they no longer require then please contact me as soon as possible.

For the duration of the expedition students will be responsible for providing all their own food and drinks. Students should have sufficient funds to be able to purchase food at supermarkets for the expeditions and enough funds to purchase meals at restaurants in Penrith (9 July) and Whitehaven (11 July).

For much of the time whilst on expedition the students will be remote from adult staff, who will operate what is known as Remote Supervision. This has been explained previously, but if you would like to discuss this further then please feel free to contact me. Students will primarily be reliant on each other to complete their journey safely. Adult supervisors may not actually camp with the students, although they will stay nearby. Students may also be wild camping on Thursday 10 July.

You will be able to contact students on their mobile phones when not on expedition. When on expedition, the emergency number will be 07565 879213.

Yours sincerely

James Davis

Mr James Davis
Gold DofE Coordinator