

September 2023

Dear Participants and parents

Re: Year 9 Outdoor Experience Camp – 2 October -6 October 2023

We would like all Year 9 students to spend a night and day in the outdoors, taking part in a range of activities. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) is run in the college at all levels and this day will give a good introduction to the type of things our students would do on DofE weekends. DofE is open to all students and full funding is readily available for students from low-income families.

Plan

Throughout the week a different house group will take part each night and following day:

DRAFT	Monday 2 October	Tuesday 3 October	Wednesday 4 October	Thursday 5 October	Friday 6 October
Walking (Day Time)		Mars / Neptune (9N1)	Saturn / Neptune (9N2)	Jupiter	Venus
Camping (Evening)	Mars / Neptune (9N1)	Saturn / Neptune (9N2)	Jupiter	Venus	

Programme for the start day

Normal school day in school uniform. Bring with you your overnight gear (see kit list below) and a packed lunch for the next day (see later for guidance on food).

8.45am - Arrive at school for normal registration. Your tutor will instruct you when and where to take your bag, which will be room N23 (top of Northcote building)

Rest of the day is a normal school day.

3pm - Pick up your camping gear from the designated room. Change into non-school uniform.

3.30pm - Go to the minibuses (outside the Dance Studio) for shuttle service to the campsite.

4pm – Everyone should be at the campsite. Tents will be allocated (these are all 2 or 3 person tents). Set up sleeping gear etc. ready for night-time.

4.30pm – Group activities and games.

6.30pm – Food! Food will be provided for the evening.

8pm – Talk about Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme and further opportunity for outdoor activities.

9.30pm – Start getting ready for bed. Everyone should be in tents by 9.45pm.

Principal
Emma Reynolds

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9.45pm – Sleep time! Staff will be on the campsite overnight in case of problems. If there are any behaviour problems students will be taken home on the school minibus.

Next Morning

7.30am - Get up. Toilets, showers etc. are available at the campsite. Breakfast will be provided – cereals, toast etc. Pack things you don't need during the day.

9am - Pack up and load camping gear into buses. You will need a bag to carry your packed lunch, snacks, waterproofs and jumper with you – your school bag or similar.

9.30-10am - Set off for a long walk, in groups of about 10. The walk is planned to be no longer than 5 hours so that you will be back at college by 3pm.

Kit Needed

Tents and breakfast food will be provided. Please let us know if you need to borrow other kit and we will try to find it. Use the notes sections on the Parent Pay form to let us know:

- Warm sleeping bag (bring a blanket or duvet as well if you are worried about being cold)
- Roll mat/yoga mat or something similar.
- Warm clothing – T shirt x 2, warm jumpers x 2, track suit bottoms/pyjamas, trousers
- Waterproof Jacket (and trousers if you have them)
- Washing kit and small towel.
- Sensible footwear for walking – waterproof boots are best, trainers will be ok, but I cannot guarantee that paths will not be muddy.
- Good socks – not trainer socks.
- Plate, bowl, cutlery, mug (no sharp knives please!)
- Torch
- **Any personal medication.**

Food

You need to bring:

- Packed lunch for the second day (choose something that will not go off) – **please note** that students who receive free school meals will be provided with a packed lunch.
- Snacks
- Bottle of water – 1litre

We will provide, evening meal and breakfast. Hot drinks, cereals and toast will also be provided. If you have specific dietary needs, you are welcome to bring your own breakfast or evening meal, but we will not be able to cook breakfast.

Money

The cost of the trip will be £10 – This will cover evening food, breakfast, transport and hire of the campsite. If your child receives free school meals, then the trip will be free.

The activities will be supervised by college staff and volunteers who have gone through the necessary safeguarding checks and training. We will be working on a 1:12 ratio of staff to students.

Permission

To book a space on this activity, please log onto Parent Pay, you will see an option for 'Year 9 Camp'. Please provide medical details, dietary requirements, emergency contact details here, together with your consent. If your child is Pupil Premium child, then this still needs to be done but you don't have to pay the £10. Please log on to Parent Pay by the **DEADLINE OF 20 SEPTEMBER – This is very important as we need time to organise final numbers and staffing.**

Your child will not be able to come on the camp if this deadline is missed.

Any questions? My email address is at the bottom of this letter. Please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Theo Pavli', with a small dot at the end.

Mr Theo Pavli
Outdoor Education Co-ordinator
tpavli@fromecollge.org