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**Stefan McHale, Headteacher**

An academy sponsored by Bridgwater & Taunton College Trust

11th September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

**Duke of Edinburgh Award – Bronze Expedition – updated date**

I am writing to update all participants and their families of the Bronze Award Expedition.  This is scheduled to take place on Thursday 25th – Friday 26th September 2025. The expedition is a requirement of the Duke of Edinburgh award and students will not be able to receive their award this academic year without its completion. If a student for any reason cannot make the date of this expedition, they may fulfil this requirement with a different centre or provider, or indeed with Brymore in the next academic year.

Teams will start their expedition from Brymore Academy on Thursday 25th September 9:30am.  Students should arrive on site at 8:30am in suitable clothing (not jeans) to ensure that there is time for the Expedition Assessor to approve their packs and equipment (see expedition guide). Please note that if for any reason a student arrives with incomplete or inappropriate equipment, they may be refused permission to participate in the expedition.  We will be staying at Kilve Court (TA5 1EA) on Thursday 25th September and students will need to be collected from Quantock Camping (TA4 3EP) on Friday 26th June at approximately 3:30pm (students will call to confirm an accurate arrival time). Groups will have planned their itinerary for both days and will walk independently with remote staff supervision.

**Expedition Training**

Students have already received an initial briefing about the expedition. The remaining training will take place at Brymore during the first half of the Summer term as part of the Friday activity programme. Students cannot participate in the expedition without the necessary training so they MUST commit to those Friday afternoon training sessions. If any are missed due to illness or other circumstances, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure they catch up to the satisfaction of the expedition assessor (Mr Walby).

In order to pass the expedition section of the award, students must evidence that they have planned and completed it independently in their groups. Therefore, as part of their expedition-training programme, students will receive navigation instruction in their expedition. They will also have an introduction to campcraft, which will include tent erection, cooking on a stove, first aid, health and safety and risk assessment, highway and countryside codes and how to work effectively as a team.

**Equipment**

Please refer to the expedition handbook about the necessary equipment. Please note that the items which have been ticked will be provided by the school. If you are concerned about sourcing anything else, please can you indicate on the consent form as we can add this to the equipment already being hired.

All places on this expedition are subject to good behaviour, and the Senior Leadership Team have the right to withdraw a student from the expedition if any behavioural concerns could potentially affect the success of the expedition for the other participants. Emergency contact and medical information will be taken from information previously provided by you and held on the school’s management information system. It is therefore essential that you notify the office if this has changed.

If you have any queries, please contact Mr Walby at [oliver.walby@brymoreacademy.co.uk](mailto:oliver.walby@brymoreacademy.co.uk)

Yours faithfully

Mr O Walby

D of E Leader

Brymore academy