

***Meeting room after school on Tuesdays is the dance studio above the MPH at school.
Please use the sanitiser provided and sign in on Register.
Masks must be worn when we meet, please, unless otherwise advised.***

Awards Ceremony for the Bronze and Silver 2019-20 groups and any finished Golds Tuesday 25 May 2021

2021 Info evening for interested families - Tuesday 25 May 2021 at School

The dates below and Tuesdays (after school to 5.30pm) are required attendance for the 2020-21 Expedition season and include postponed expeditions due to COVID-19 .

Arrangements for the other sections are made individually, with an aim to start all sections by Christmas at the latest. There is lot of local information and links about what you can do on our website under "sectional info". We are always here to advise and support choices. mob 07908954105; email info@gillinghamdofe.co.uk; drop into the meet room on a Tuesday for a quick chat.

Enrolment fees all go to Dorset Council. Once an account is opened and/or older than 2 weeks we will have incurred that cost ourselves and therefore can't refund. However the enrolment remains in place until 25th birthday so any aspect of the Award can be picked up at a later date or transferred to a new school/unit.

If there is any challenge to covering charges please speak to a leader in confidence – don't miss out

If intending to do the expedition in 2020-21 please check our dates against other school, club and family commitments. We cannot safely take people forward without completing all of the expedition course because the **remotely supervised** Final requires experience, knowledge, good teamwork and completion of the training framework. Everyone has to undergo training, unless proven elsewhere, a Practice and a Final.

FIRST AID **For any new enrolment undertaking the expedition:

One day (6hr) Nationally Accredited 6hr Emergency First Aid is mandatory training - £30 (**valid 3 years**). Sat 19 Dec 2020 and Saturday 15 May 2021.

GOLDS

- **3 outdoor events must be completed – Training, Practice and Final**
- **These can be attended to suit you, but you also have to attend the planning (for the Final) event.**
- **If, in this yr of COVID, you attend a non-wild country Practice you must do a non WildC Final.**
- **We still await the lifting of the Govt. ban on residential (camping inc.) in educational settings.**

FINAL Sat Apr 10 to Tues Apr 13, 2021 £70 – Local. The team is considering the Cranborne Chase

TRAINING Thurs 15 Apr to Sun 18 Apr £65

Planning day for the July 2021 Gold Finals (Inset at school) will be on Saturday 29 May 2021

PRACTICE Fri 9 July to Tues 13 July £85

FINAL Sat 24 July to Wed 28 July £85

**GOLD TANDEM CANOE 2021. If this of interest please enquire quickly because cost will depend upon numbers!
Likely location – Trg, nr Westbury. Prac on the Avon/Thames. Final on the Wye.**

SILVERS

We'll not be able to meet until after the 2021 February half term.

If out of lockdown, we would like to meet Tues March 9 from after school, to get everyone in teams and prepared for the training.

Training weekend Sat 13 and Sun 14 Mar 2021. NOT overnight. £10 (local to Marnhull/Stur).

Practice Sat 10 to Mon 12 Apr £25 (Shaft/Cranborne area) Mon 12 will be a planning day for the Final.

Tues Apr 27 – Briefing and final preparation for assessment.

Final Sat May 1 to Mon May 3 (BH) £35 – £40 dependant on where we go.

Tues May 4 – meet to plan the Expedition Presentations to be ready for.....

Tues May 25 – Awards Presentation including Cert of Achievements

BRONZES

All hikes and camps are local (within 25miles) and parents help to transport (say if that's a problem!)

If out of lockdown, we would like to meet Tues Mar 23 from after school, to start with some teambuilding; confirm which day you are walking and prepare.

Sat Mar 27 OR Sun Mar 28 Day hike £5. Half the teams on one day, half on the other.

Tuesday meetings: 20 Apr, 27 Apr, 4, 11 and 18 May.

Sat and Sun 22/23 May OR 5/6 June Practice, finishing Sunday lunchtime (again half the teams one w'end, half the other) £20

Tuesday meetings: 25 May – Awards Presentation including 2020/21 Cert of Achieve; 8 and 15 June.

Sat and Sun 19/20 June Finals weekend for all Bronze teams £25

Event costs, as above, cover weekly room hire, admin (printing, copying, and postage), specialist unit insurance, charity audit, leader training and accreditation, training resources for participants, camping/bunkhouse fees, expedition consumables, transport hire, fuel, equipment repair and replacement, (finals) assessors etc.

Fundraising is usually undertaken to help reduce costs but is at a standstill this year due to the pandemic.

Some personal equipment can be borrowed. We supply all team equipment – tents, stoves, fuel, maps compasses, shelters etc.....

Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections are usually arranged between the Participant's family and whoever they are doing the activity with. It's very important to engage with eDofE (online activity record) and very important to always check out ideas for the DofE sections and to have them approved beforehand on eDofE. It's not always as simple as it sounds!! Costly mistakes can be made – on the other hand we are full of bright ideas as to what can count, where and how!

Where others are working with your child you are strongly advised to check out insurance cover and to be confident in regard to child protection.

Only DC DofE **leader led** activities are insured for Public Liability risk by DC (Dorset Council). The Award provides minimal personal accident cover <https://www.dofe.org/run/insurance/>