



October 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Duke of Edinburgh Expedition – 17 to 18 October 2020

Firstly, apologies for the short notice. I have only just received confirmation from KCC that our DofE expedition can go ahead on 17 and 18 October.

We will be following the current Covid19 protocols of “Hands, Face, Space”. Also, there will be no overnight stay, although students will be allocated a tent to carry so that they can fulfil the expectations of the expedition. Please take care to read the following as it details what time your child should be at the starting point, where they will be walking from and to, and roughly what time you should expect to get a call from them on both Saturday and Sunday, once they have completed the day’s walking.

If you have not already done so, please take some time to check through the attached Expedition Kit list. Please be aware that we will not allow students to take part if there are concerns about their safety and this means that footwear and clothing must be suitable (walking boots, waterproofs and NO strappy tops).

Your child will be starting her expedition from either the School, Hadlow College front car park or the Village Green at Matfield. Please see attached maps for reference.

On Saturday morning your child will arrive at their start point and have a check with their assessor/supervisor and will leave the start point on foot with the rest of their group – to start the six-hour (minimum) walk to their campsite area. The assessor/supervisor will be monitoring their progress at checkpoints throughout the day, but they will be trekking, having lunch and carrying out their project work (alone) for the most part.

When they arrive at the School on Saturday after the first day’s walk their assessor/supervisor will check that they are capable of pitching a tent and are able to put a Trangia together and cook safely. They will then be collected by parents and carers and taken home.

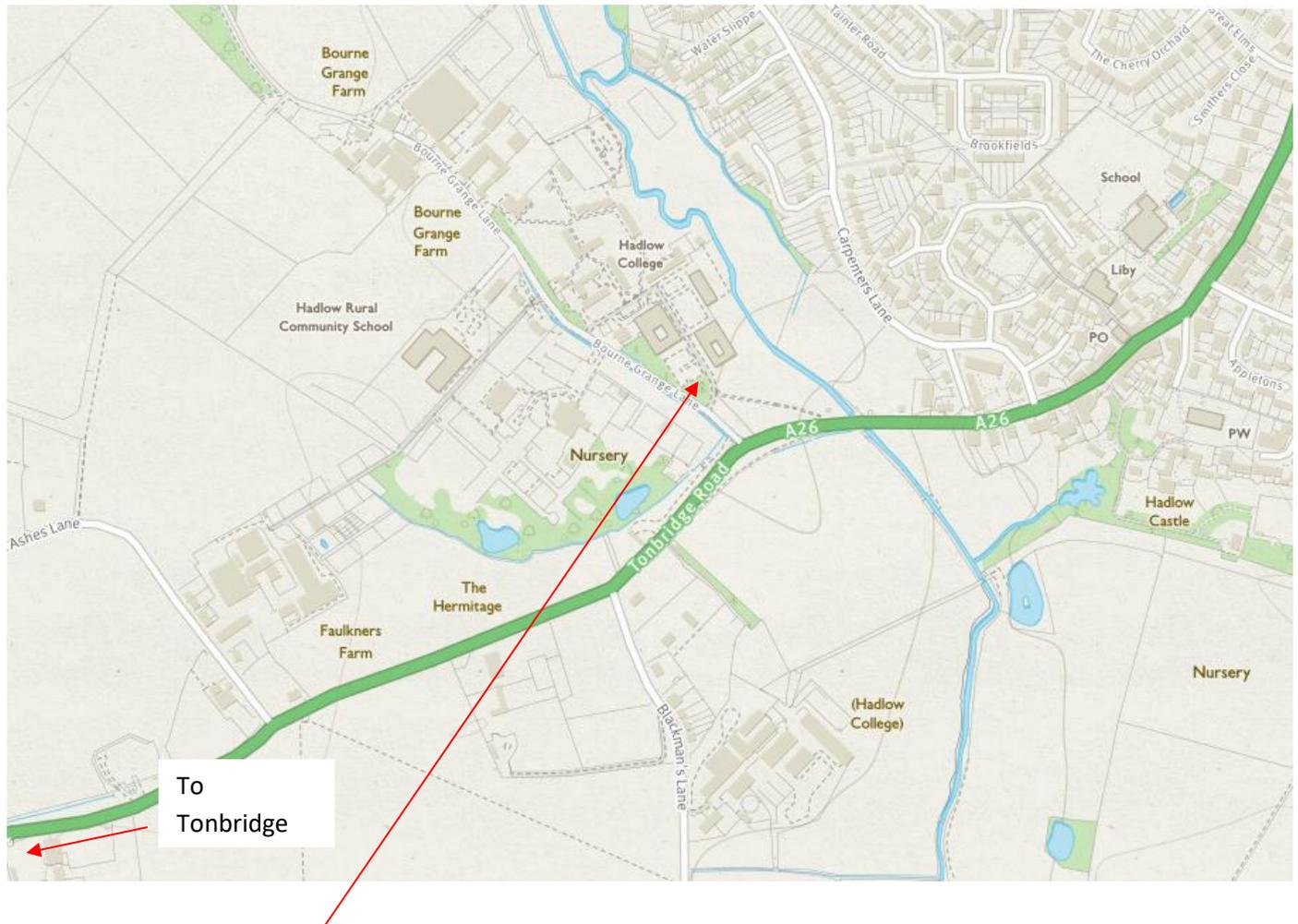
On Sunday morning they should be brought back to the school ready to begin their second day of walking. The time at which they start will be determined following agreement with their Assessor/Supervisor, so be aware you may be required to make an early start. They will arrive back at either the School, Hadlow College front car park or the Village Green at Matfield (please see attached maps for reference) on Sunday afternoon ready for collection. Please do not come to collect your child until they have called you on their mobile but please be available between 2pm and 6pm to receive the phone call and come to collect them. All groups must undergo a de-brief from their assessor which usually takes between 10 and 15 minutes.

We are confident that they will all do very well and look forward to seeing them all ready to go. Thank you for your continued support and understanding in relation to the changes we have made.

Yours sincerely,

Mr F Brunt

Directions to Hadlow College - Grid Ref: 629 498



Start point for Cluster 1 and finish point for Cluster 2 is a small car park on the right-hand side as you enter Hadlow College. To access this start or finish point, come from Tonbridge on the A26 heading for Maidstone and just before you get to Hadlow, the college is signposted on the right-hand side. The car park is on your immediate right. It is a small car park so, if starting here, please simply drop your child off.

Directions to the Green at Matfield – Grid Ref: 658 418



The start point for Cluster 2 and finish point for Cluster 1 is the Green at Matfield. This is accessed by taking the B2160 out of Paddock Wood, heading SW or from the roundabout on the A21 at Kippings Cross heading NE. Follow this road until you enter Matfield. The Green is on your right if coming from Paddock Wood or left if coming up from the A21. As there are not many available spaces, if starting here, please simply drop your child off.

We recommend that those dropping off and picking up check the route **BEFORE** setting off.

Start time for all clusters	Start point for Cluster 1 Groups 1B and 1H	Start point for Cluster 2 Groups 1I,A,B,F and G	Start point for Cluster 3 Groups J,K,L,M	Start point for Cluster 4 Group W
8.00 am	Assemble in your groups at Hadlow college front car park. Find your assessor/supervisor.	Assemble in your groups at the Village Green at Matfield. Find your assessor/supervisor.	Assemble in your groups in School car park Tonbridge site. Find your assessor/supervisor.	Assemble in your group in School car park Tonbridge site. Find your assessor/supervisor.
8.00am - 9.00am	Go through list of items with your Assessor/supervisor until they are happy for you to start. Agree your check points. Begin your expedition.	Go through list of items with your Assessor/supervisor until they are happy for you to start. Agree your check points. Begin your expedition.	Go through list of items with your Assessor/supervisor until they are happy for you to start. Agree your check points. Begin your expedition.	Go through list of items with your Assessor/supervisor until they are happy for you to start. Agree your check points. Begin your expedition.
09.00am – 3.00pm	Walking to School car park, meet assessor and demonstrate tent pitching etc.	Walking to School car park, meet assessor and demonstrate tent pitching etc.	Walking to School car park, meet assessor and demonstrate tent pitching etc.	Walking to School car park, meet assessor and demonstrate tent pitching etc.
3.00pm onwards	Students collected and taken home for the night.	Students collected and taken home for the night.	Students collected and taken home for the night.	Students collected and taken home for the night.
SUNDAY				
Dependent on group and assessor	Arrive at school and check in with assessor/supervisor	Arrive at school and check in with assessor/supervisor	Arrive at school and check in with assessor/supervisor	Arrive at school and check in with assessor/supervisor
7.00am – 8.00am	Assessor/supervisor to agree check points. Begin the second day of the expedition.	Assessor/supervisor to agree check points. Begin the second day of the expedition.	Assessor/supervisor to agree check points. Begin the second day of the expedition.	Assessor/supervisor to agree check points. Begin the second day of the expedition.
8.00am - 3.00pm (onwards)	Walking to School car park, meet assessor and debrief. Phone parents for collection.	Walking to School car park, meet assessor and debrief. Phone parents for collection.	Walk to Hadlow College front car park, meet assessor and debrief. Phone parents for collection.	Walk to the Village Green at Matfield, meet assessor and debrief. Phone parents for collection.