



NEWSTEAD WOOD SCHOOL

"creating opportunities for success"

THE SUNDAY TIMES

SCHOOLS GUIDE
2025

STATE SECONDARY
SCHOOL OF THE YEAR
LONDON

13 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Silver and Gold Practice Expedition – 2-4 April 2025

We are writing with details of our Silver and Gold Practice Expedition to the Guildford area from Wednesday 2 April to Friday 4 April.

We will be meeting at Bentley Copse Scout Campsite at 5.30pm on Wednesday 2 April. Participants will need to be dropped off at the site. There will be a small number of spaces available on the minibus from Newstead Wood School which will need to be booked in advance. There will also be limited availability for a shuttle run from the local train station (Dorking - Main) to Bentley Copse for participants (6.00pm pick up from station). Please fill out [this form](#) to tell us how you will be arriving. Minibus spaces will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

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

Campsites are:

Bentley Copse Activity Centre - Hound House Road, Guildford, GU5 9JH

Faurefold Girlguiding Campsite - Faurefold, Lince Lane, Westcott, RH4 3LX

Students will be allowed to use their mobile phones for the first evening but they must not use them whilst on expedition. We will ask students to phone you when they are an hour or so from the finish point. Pick up will be from approximately 4.30pm from Box Hill National Trust Car Park.

The food situation will be explained to students during their training sessions. In short, they will need to provide food (as a team) for their expedition. They will be cooking on stoves and all food should not need to be refrigerated.

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*. We believe that this has been explained to you previously, but if you want to discuss this further then please feel free to contact me. Students will primarily be reliant on each other to complete their journey safely. There will be members of staff camping at the campsites.

Headteacher: Mr Alan Blount, MA, BSc, QTS

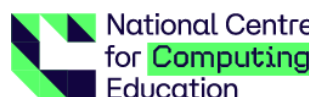
Newstead Wood School is part of United Learning. United Learning comprises: UCST (Registered in England No: 2780748. Charity No. 1016538) and ULT (Registered in England No. 4439859. An Exempt Charity). Companies limited by guarantee. VAT number 834 8515 12. Registered address: United Learning, Worldwide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



A kit list is attached but we particularly want to stress that a waterproof jacket is compulsory and boots need to **cover ankles**; walking shoes are not acceptable. Many of the items on the kit list have already been provided and others are still available to borrow. Students will receive full training regarding kit. Please do read through the kit list and check that students are not taking extra equipment. Bags should not weigh more than a quarter of the student's body weight. Also, there is some kit – stoves, gas and tents, that will be issued and/or packed into bags in the morning at the campsite. Room needs to be left in rucksacks for these items to fit.

Ms Meader, Mr Giles and Ms Boyle are the other staff members accompanying the trip.

Final student briefings are as follows:

Silver – Thursday 27 March

Gold – Friday 28 March

You will be able to contact students on their mobiles when not on expedition (First evening and Friday afternoon). When on expedition, the emergency number will be **07985 340852**.

Yours sincerely,

Hannah Morland

Miss Hannah Morland
Silver DofE Coordinator

James Davis

Mr James Davis
Gold DofE Coordinator