



March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Part of the assessment process for the Outdoor & Adventurous Activities unit for the Entry to the Uniformed Services course is my judgement of the students' performance on a multi-day expedition. Your child may have mentioned that they have been planning this expedition for several weeks. The details are as follows:

Dates: Tuesday 09 June 2026 – Friday 12 June 2026

Area: Snowdonia National Park, North Wales

Transport: School minibus

Staff: Mr Jackson, Mrs Norton

Timings: Leaving school at 12noon on the Tuesday, hopefully returning before 4pm on the Friday.

We are asking for a parental contribution of £40 (the school is paying all accommodation and transport costs, we only ask for this contribution towards the cost of feeding your child). Could this please be paid in cash by Monday 28 April, as we will require access to the funds during the expedition. Cash should be in a sealed envelope with your child's name on it and handed to me or to reception. A receipt can be issued for cash received.

Whilst we endeavour to accurately forecast the cost of trips, in the unlikely event that costs fluctuate and result in surplus remaining at the end of any trip, details of this and any right to refund will be communicated with you at the end of the trip.

I have attached the proposed programme, together with a recommended personal equipment list. Please note this programme is weather dependent and may be adjusted during the trip to reflect prevailing conditions, as the safety of students is of paramount importance. Whilst reaching the summit of Snowdon is an important objective to students, it is not a requirement of the course. Therefore, adverse weather conditions will mean we will not attempt to walk to the top but will complete a low level walk instead.

As part of the planning process students should have identified what they need to bring. Please do encourage, in fact insist, that they pack their own clothing and equipment. It is quite possible the weather will be cold and wet, although we hope not! The school has a reasonably comprehensive supply of equipment so please do not purchase equipment that may not be used again by your family.

Inevitably a trip like this requires me to complete many risk assessments as, by the very nature of the activities, students are at risk of injury when walking, camping, cooking. Your child has consistently performed throughout the year and is a pleasure to work with. However, the highest standards of behaviour will be insisted upon at all times as they will be representing Heanor Gate Spencer academy. One of the risks staff need to monitor is both heat and cold. We will expect students to apply sun cream if conditions suggest it is appropriate and we expect them to wear appropriate waterproof and warm clothing if necessary; despite any concerns they have about how trendy they look! I hope you will support me by reminding your child of this before we depart.

Please be aware that we have students who may be participating in this trip who have a serious nut allergy. Please avoid giving your child bagged nuts or products with a nut content, as even the smell can cause these students anxiety.

Please login to ParentPay to give your consent for your child to participate in this trip.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Jackson
Teacher of Entry to the Uniformed Services

Forecast of Events:-

Date	Time	Activity
Tuesday 9 June	12.00noon	Depart from HGSA
	5.00pm	Arrive & pitch tents at Dolgam Campsite.
Wednesday 10 June	7.00am	Wake up
	7.00am-8.00am	Breakfast
	9.00am-12.00noon	Check route cards, pack rucksack, prepare lunch
	12.00noon	Depart Campsite for Snowdon
	12.30pm	Groups away
	3.00pm-6.00pm	Navigation exercise
	6.00pm	Set up overnight camp on lower levels of Snowdon
	9.00pm	Bed
Thursday 11 June	6.30am-8.00am	Wake & breakfast/strike camp
	8.00am-5.00pm	Ascend/descend Snowdon
	5.30pm	Evening meal – either cooked by students or “Pete’s Eat’s” cafe in Llanberis or chip shop in Betws-Y-Coed.
	8.00pm	Arrive back at Dolgam campsite
	8.00pm-10.00pm	Free time
Friday 12 June	6.30am	Wake & breakfast
	7.30am-9.30am	Pack up campsite
	9.30am-9.45am	Leave Snowdon
	3.00pm	Arrive at HGSA and unpack all equipment back into the store
	4.00pm	Students free to leave HGSA

Equipment List:-

Item	Essential Available from school?	Item – Suggested
Walking boots	Yes	Shorts
Waterproof jacket	Yes	Camera
Waterproof trousers	Yes	Book
20 litre or larger rucksack	Yes	Sunglasses
65 litre rucksack	Yes	Mosquito hat/screen
Sun cream/insect repellent		Flask
Sleeping bag	Yes	
Sleep mat	Yes	
Camping plate/bowl/knife, fork, spoon	Yes	
Walking socks and normal socks for duration		
Underwear		
Long trousers NOT jeans		
Thermal base layer top		
T shirts		
Long sleeved top		
Fleece/warm jacket		
Sun hat		
Warm hat		
Gloves		
Wash kit		
Towel		