



July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

We hope your child is looking forward to the assessment expedition. As you may have seen in the weather forecast, it is set to be very warm. Please read this letter carefully as this guidance will help to ensure your child can stay safe in the heat.

Equipment:

Students will be permitted to carry a small rucksack for the day, as opposed to carrying their main expedition rucksack. If they carry a rucksack for school, this will most likely be suitable. Handbags/shoulder bags are not suitable. Please ensure the small rucksack is only packed with essentials for the day. Staff members will take their expedition rucksacks up to the campsite ready for them later in the day.

If your child does not have a suitable day sack we will bring a selection students can borrow, which we will bring with us on the trip.

In their day rucksack **MUST** be the following:

- 2 litres of water (2 1 litre water bottles will be most suitable)
- Food for the day (they do not need to carry their evening meals)
- A sunhat and sunglasses
- Suncream
- A spare layer of clothes
- Any personal first aid and medication
- If your child carries an inhaler/an epipen they must carry both on them.

Departure:

Please ensure your child is dropped off at school between **7.30am and 7.45am for a 7.50 departure on Wednesday 8 July.**

Please make sure you are on time so we can avoid the school rush, as this may delay us leaving.

Arrival back at school:

We will aim to be back at school between **3.00pm-4.00pm on Friday.** Please keep an eye on your phones for communication from the students when we depart Bakewell..

Contingencies

Please be reassured we will be doing everything we can to ensure the students are kept safe in the heat, and a variety of contingencies will be put in place to ensure they are well. These include:

- Carrying less weight in rucksacks.
- Incorporating more frequent water stops.
- Ensuring enforced breaks in the shade.
- There is an indoor area at the campsite where students will be able to sit to get out of the heat if absolutely necessary.
- Shortening walking time.
- Leaving earlier in the day to avoid the hottest part of the afternoon.
- Regular suncream re-application reminders.
- Students will not be permitted to enter water at any point.
- As an absolute last resort, we will cut the trip short if we feel it is no longer safe to continue on the expedition.

If you have any concerns regarding the heat whilst we are on the trip, please call the trip phone in the first instance on: **07974 296443.**

As a final note, we will require the large and small rucksacks returned to us on the return to school on the Friday, so please ensure you bring a bag/similar so that the students can empty this before they leave to go home.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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