



June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Wave 2 - Duke of Edinburgh, Bronze Award Assessed expedition: Mendip Hills, Fri 10 to Sat 11 July 2026

I am delighted to confirm final arrangements for the two-day Bronze training with overnight camp.

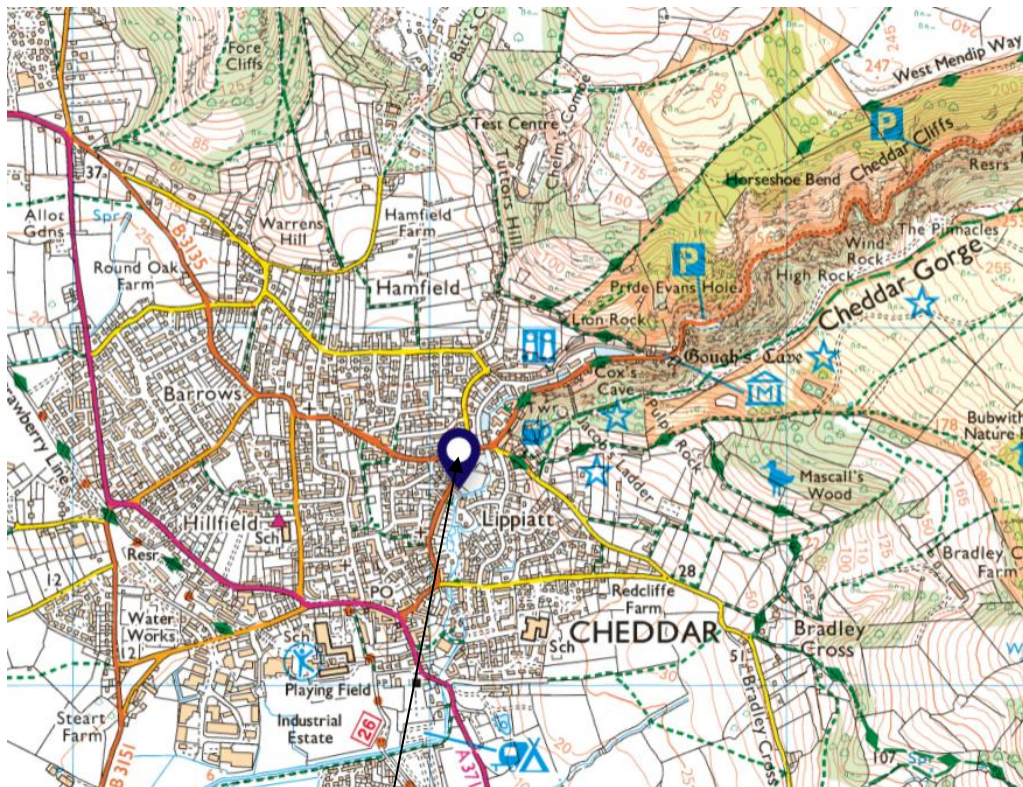
Dates and Transport

The Bronze training will take place on the Mendip Hills and involves two days of walking and navigation instruction. Due to the number of students involved we are asking that parents drop off and pick up their son/daughter at designated locations and times. Please lift share if possible. We may be able to transport a very small number of students from school in the minibus if there is no other way they could be transported. Please get in touch.

Teams 12 13 14 15 16

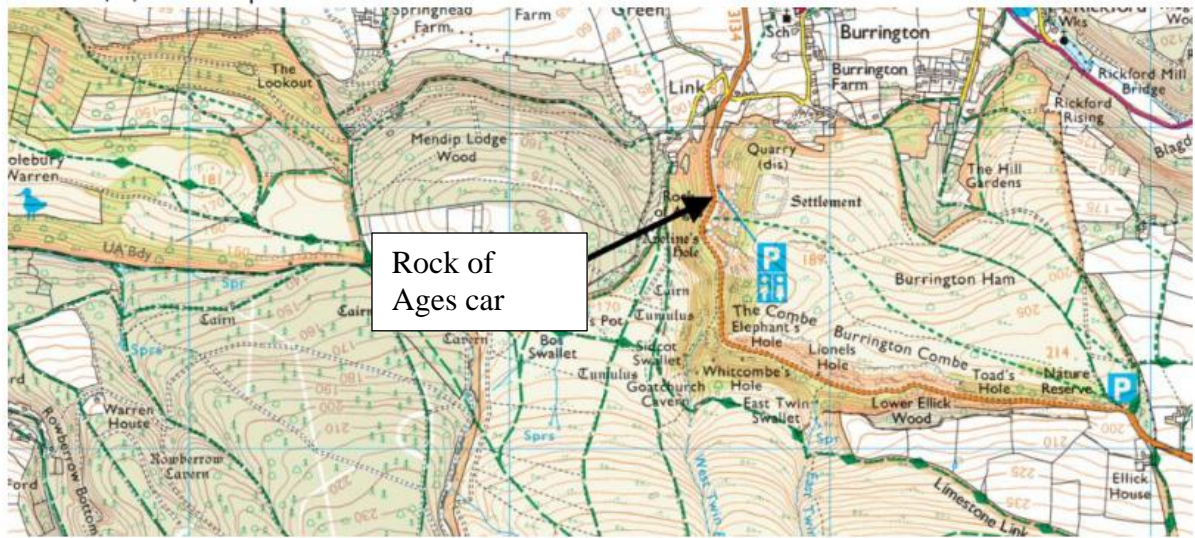
Drop off at the large car park on Cliff St, Cheddar (BS27 3PS) and pick up at the Rock of Ages car park in Burrington Combe (BS40 7AS)

Drop off



Car park

Pick up

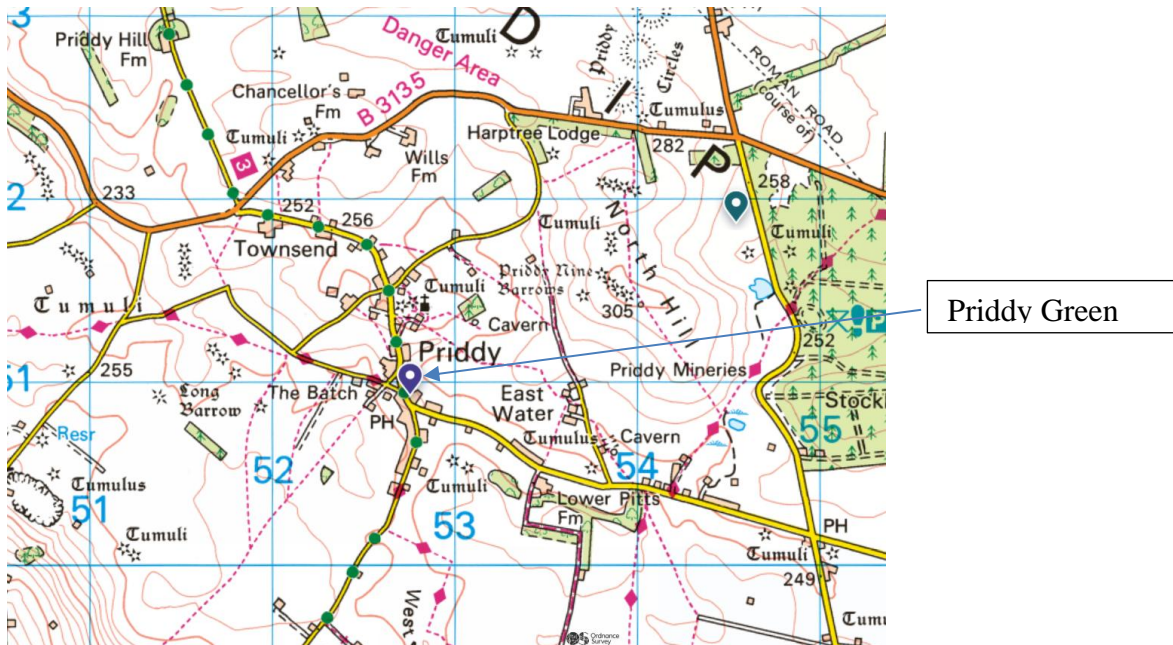


Team	Drop off time on Friday	Pick up time on Saturday
12 13 14	9.30am	3pm
15 16	10am	3.30pm

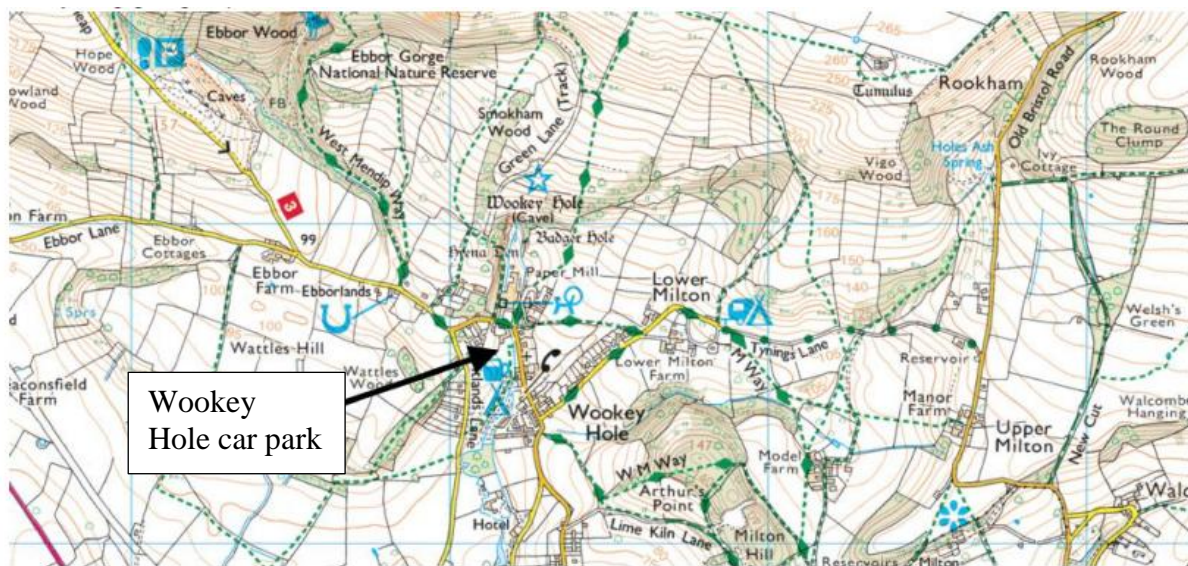
Teams 17 18 19 20 21 22

Drop off at Priddy Green (BA5 3BB) and pick up from Wookey Hole car park (BA5 1BB).

Drop off



Pick up



Team	Drop off time Friday	Pick up time Saturday
17 18 19	9.30 am	3.00 pm
20 21 22	10.00 am	3.30 pm

Your son/daughter should be aware of which group they are in - groups are attached if they have forgotten.

Equipment and food

It is important that your son/daughter is suitably equipped for the expedition. Students will not be permitted to take part if they do not have boots that cover their ankles and waterproofs (this is for safety reasons). Cotton clothing is best avoided in favour of synthetic due to the latter being much quicker drying. Students should walk in long walking trousers which offer the best protection against tick bites and sunburn.

Group kit such as tents, maps, stoves and fuel will be provided by Wild Country Consultants. All other kit items must be personally provided **including a compass** (at least two per group), personal first aid kit and food for the weekend (2x lunches, 1x evening meal, 1x breakfast & snacks). They should also be carrying 2L of water.

The evening meal on Friday evening should be cooked as a team. Students should have been proactive and communicated effectively with each other and decided who will be bringing what. Cooking in tent groups is fine.

Mobile phones and contact details

Each team may bring TWO mobile phones between them which should be fully charged, switched off and stored safely in their packs for emergency use only. Additional mobile phones that are brought along will need to be stored in the minibus until the end of the expedition when they will be returned to students. Please note the school cannot take responsibility for any lost or damaged personal items whilst out on the expedition.

Staff will have phones and contact details provided by you. Please could you complete the student essential information form below if not already done:

<https://forms.office.com/e/P7AAVRHN2F>

It is important that you are available during the duration of the weekend at any time in case there were a need for you to pick up your son/daughter.

Supervision

Students will be overseen by qualified D of E instructors. Expectations have been clearly explained to students. Any student who is deemed to be behaving in an unsafe manner will be removed from the expedition. Please can I remind you to ensure that the code of conduct has been read and acknowledged if you have not already done so. It can be found again here:

[Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions - Code of Conduct 2026 – Fill in form](#)

Mrs Hibbard will be overseeing the Cheddar side of the expedition, and I will be on the Priddy side. We will have the school minibuses in case of emergency.

Payments

Please ensure that you are up to date with the payments as per the schedule on ParentPay. Withdrawal from the expedition at this stage will still require payment in full.

We look forward to seeing you on Friday 10th July. If you have any questions about these arrangements, please email me at the school via lgriffiths1@backwellschool.net

Yours sincerely

Lucinda Griffiths
Duke of Edinburgh Manager