

May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

The Ten Tors Challenge consists of a 35 mile (Year 10) or 45 mile (Year 11) walk across Dartmoor.

There is no point in sugar coating this event: it is not an easy stroll in glorious conditions. It is a challenging walk that will really test the mental and physical toughness of your child. The environmental conditions are extremely variable.

That said, I believe that every student who has taken part has truly loved it.

Students sometimes don't realise what they are really capable of until they are at the point where they think they can't achieve anymore and then they do. At which point they simply burst with pride. That's what Ten Tors is in a nut shell – but with a rather heavy rucksack on and up a rather steep Tor or two!

It's important that the decision to take part is that of your child – not yours. It may well have been something that you completed or wanted to complete, however it may be not be right for your child, regardless of how much you think they would benefit from it.

Training for the Ten Tors can be expensive, with travel, planning, equipment and residential costs. Your child is accompanied by two adults, at least one being a qualified walking leader, in their group on every walk.

We try to minimise costs by charging once for all of the training expenses and have managed to keep the cost to **£195** this year. This covers training for the whole year and we still consider this to be good value for money, especially when compared to other schools. Training is expected to include at least two day walks and four extended walks, each involving an overnight camp.

We like to break down the cost of payment for this activity but under the current circumstances are unable to give precise detail at this moment in time. We would like you to factor this in to your considerations on signing up.

To give you a guide, we are likely to ask for monies in payments around: **£75 non-refundable deposit by end of September, £50 by end of October, £50 by end of November and £25 by end of December. It may be that you are able to set aside small amounts now in preparation for this.**

We would like to remind you that you can make an application to the Wood Trust for any financial support that you may require – we do not wish finances to be a factor in a student not having an opportunity to take part in this training.

Equally we are aware that kit we ask students to wear for Ten Tors is far more specialised than that worn for other walking events at Uffculme School. A lot of this more specialised clothing can still be purchased quite inexpensively from places like Go Outdoors (we are not endorsing this shop – there are plenty of others to

go to). I would also consider asking to borrow kit from older students who may not be walking anymore. Alternatively, talk to us: we may be able to help as we have some kit in our store that can be borrowed.

It is imperative to understand that by signing up for Ten Tors you are committing to the dates, including the contingency dates. Team selection will be on commitment to training as well as skills shown.

There are also lunchtime and occasional after school sessions throughout the year that the students also need to commit to. With the latter ones we do appreciate that there may be occasional clash with another school activity but students must be proactive in seeking out staff to discuss the situation before the meeting.

Students should not sign up for Ten Tors because a friend has as there is no guarantee that they will be in a walking team with this person – the Moorland team reserve the right to form the best suited walking groups.

DATES:

- Sunday 4th October: Ten Tors - [Abbots Way. \(TBC\) Compulsory participation.](#)
- Saturday 16th January: [Ten Tors Walk 1.](#)
- Friday 29th January to Saturday 30th January: [Ten Tors Camp 1.](#)
- Friday 5th February to Saturday 7th February: [Ten Tors Contingency.](#)
- Saturday 6th March to Sunday 7th March: [Ten Tors Camp 2.](#)
- Saturday 13th March to Sunday 14th March: [Ten Tors Contingency.](#)
- Saturday 27th March to Sunday 28th March: [Ten Tors Camp 3.](#)
- Saturday 24th April to Sunday 25th April: [Ten Tors Camp 4.](#)
- Friday 7th May to Sunday 9th May: [Ten tors \(The Event itself is the Saturday and Sunday\).](#)

Please note: it is VERY likely that the GCSE R.E. Exam will be taking place on the MONDAY morning following the TEN TORS event. Students should please bear this in mind when making their decision to train.

Moorland Adventure Training Team

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