

July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Ten Tors TRAINING

The Ten Tors Challenge consists of a challenging 35 mile (students in Year 10 in Autumn 2021) or 45 mile (students in Year 11 in Autumn 2021) walk across Dartmoor.

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

That said we believe that every student who has taken part has truly loved it. Students sometimes don't realise what they are truly capable of until they are at the point where they think they couldn't achieve anymore and then they do. At which point they simply burst with pride. That's what Ten Tors is in a nutshell – but with a rather heavy rucksack on and up a rather steep Tor or ten!

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 no matter 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 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 **£175** 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 a precise breakdown at this moment in time. We would like you to factor this into your considerations on signing up.

We would like to remind you that you can make an application to the Wood Trust for a contribution to the costs of taking part in the Ten Tors – 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 the 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 other places to go to). Your child could also consider asking to borrow kit from older students who may not be walking anymore. Alternatively, talk to us and we may be able to help as we have some kit in our store that can be borrowed.

It is imperative that by signing up for Ten Tors your child is 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 need to commit to. With the latter ones we do appreciate that there may be the occasional clash with another school activity but students must be proactive in seeking out staff to discuss the situation before the meeting. They should not sign up for Ten Tors because a friend is, 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.

Below are the dates:

- Sunday 9th October 2021: Ten Tors - [Abbots Way. Compulsory participation \(see separate letter\).](#)
- Saturday 22nd January 2022: [Ten Tors Walk 1.](#)
- Friday 4th February / Saturday 5th February 2022: [Ten Tors Camp 1.](#)
- Friday 11th February to Saturday 12th February: [Ten Tors Contingency \(hopefully not needed!\).](#)
- Saturday 5th March to Sunday 6th March: [Ten Tors Camp 2.](#)
- Saturday 12th March to Sunday 13th March: [Ten Tors Contingency \(hopefully not needed!\).](#)
- Saturday 19th March to Sunday 20th March: [Ten Tors Camp 3.](#)
- [Contingency date for Camp 3 will be a midweek date TBC.](#)
- Saturday 23rd April to Sunday 24th April: [Ten Tors Camp 4.](#)
- Friday 6th May to Sunday 8th May: [Ten tors \(The Event itself is the Saturday and Sunday\).](#)

Please note: it is VERY likely that the GCSE RE Exam will be taking place on the MONDAY morning following the TEN TORS event. Please bear this in mind when you make your decision to train.

To sign your child up for the Ten Tors, please make a payment through ParentPay. You will also find the payment schedule on ParentPay.

Please note, TRAINING does not guarantee a place on the team for the event. Team selection is based on commitment, skills, participation in training, cooperation, teamwork, attitude, independence, proactive approach to problem solving and behaviour.

If your child feels that the Ten Tors event is not for them, but they may be interested in the Jubilee Challenge that runs alongside the event please contact the team directly for more information.

Moorland Adventure Training Team

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