



11<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

## Ten Tors Challenge 2021

Ten Tors is a walking challenge run by the military, which takes place on Dartmoor each year. You can find out more about the event at [www.tentors.org.uk/challenge/about](http://www.tentors.org.uk/challenge/about).

At South Dartmoor and The Atrium Studio, we have a strong history of success at Ten Tors and it is a highlight of the school calendar. Currently, the event that is planned for May 2021 is going ahead, although over the course of the next 6 months there maybe changes to the format to ensure it is COVID safe. As such, we are planning to start the training for this early next year and our planned dates currently are:

The dates of walks and key events are as follows:

Date	Walk or event
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	Deadline for expressions of interest (follow the link on this letter)
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 6.30pm	Parent introduction and information launch meeting via Teams
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Deadline for entry payments on ParentPay
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> & Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Training weekend 1 and full kit check
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> & Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	Training weekend 2
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> & Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Training weekend 3 (camping TBC)
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> & Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Training weekend 4 (camping TBC)
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2021	Full kit check in school
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> & Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	Final training weekend 5 (camping TBC)
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> , Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> & Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Ten Tors event (TBC)

All of these walks are compulsory and whilst I appreciate that things can happen at the last minute, students who do not regularly attend walks will run the risk of being cut from the selection process, so please check these dates before you sign up.

Meetings and all correspondence will be on teams and there will be videos to learn the skills needed which will need to be watched and practiced. These are again compulsory and require a commitment from the students.

Dartmoor can be a hostile environment especially in winter and it is important that students are properly equipped. A kit list will be shown at the parents' launch meeting, so you can see what kit is required. They will need this kit from the first walk.

In the last few years we have had competition for places in the team which means we will assess the students continually and we will have to cut students that have not shown us the commitment or skills required to be successful. We will then make our final team selections in April. This means students will need the kit for training camps but may still not make the team. However, we do have a small stock of certain items that we can lend out. If this is something you may be interested in then please feel free to contact me on the email address at the bottom of this letter.

**To participate in the Ten Tors event, your child must have permission for photos to be taken and potentially be used on public websites and media outlets. In addition, by paying the enrolment fee you are agreeing to give photo permission to both us and Ten Tors.** We are fortunate to have Robert Darch joining us again this year. Rob is a professional photographer who works on long term photography projects and is particularly interested in the young people interacting with the moors in the training section of Ten Tors. Rob will be attending some of the walks and taking photographs of our participants which he may then use in competitions or media editorials. If he does plan to use these pictures he will inform us and we can inform you.

If you are interested in finding out more, we are holding a TEAMS meeting on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 1830** that the potential participant AND a parent must attend. This is to go through all the information and commitments required. If you are interested in finding out more and applying for this year's Ten Tors team, please complete the 'Expression of Interest' form at [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Yeyemmb7BU6cR6U6z4zv4tgjZm\\_9N2pNqoROmhZ-0ORUOUUyUVBLQ0dYN0JYWkZYRk9aNkEyRVhJRy4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Yeyemmb7BU6cR6U6z4zv4tgjZm_9N2pNqoROmhZ-0ORUOUUyUVBLQ0dYN0JYWkZYRk9aNkEyRVhJRy4u)

This must be completed by the 20<sup>th</sup> November. We will not be accepting late entries after this date. Please feel free to contact me through the email below if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

*C.Howard*

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