



South Dartmoor Community College

Executive Head teacher | Mrs J Veal
 Balland Lane | Ashburton | Devon | TQ13 7EW
 01364 652230 | www.southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk

Empowering everyone to be the best they can be.



20 September 2024

Dear Parent / Carer

Ten Tors Challenge 2025

Ten Tors is a walking challenge run by the military which takes its participants into the most remote and beautiful parts of the moor throughout their training and during the event. You can find out more about the event and its history at www.tentors.org.uk/challenge/about.

At South Dartmoor Community College, we have a strong history of success at Ten Tors, entering 35,45 and 55 mile teams previously, and it is a highlight of the school calendar.

As part of the training, you will undertake a number of day walks and overnight camps which will teach you the skills you will need to be independent for the event.

The dates of walks and key events are as follows:

Date	Walk or event
Thursday 10 October 2024 Closes at 9.00pm	Deadline for expressions of interest (the link and form can be found at the bottom of this letter). After this date, students signed up will be added to the Ten Tors 'Teams' group. Those who have not completed the form may still attend the Information Evening .
Thursday 10 October 2024 Starts time 5.30pm Estimated finish time 6.30pm	Information Evening Attendance required from participant and parent/guardian so you know what you are signing up for!
Friday 1 November 2024	Deadline for training payments on ParentPay.
Friday 29 November 2024 Start time 3.30pm Estimated finish time 5.00pm	35 only – Reading a map. All - Day walking kit check.
Saturday 30 November 2024 Start time TBC	Day walk 1 – Location and start time for all walks to be confirmed in Training Letter .
Saturday 21 December 2024 Start time TBC	Day walk 2 - Location and start time for all walks to be confirmed in Training Letter . <i>Saturday 16th December as contingency for poor weather.</i>
Saturday 11 January 2025 Start time TBC	Day walk 3 - Location and start time for all walks to be confirmed in Training Letter .
Saturday 25 January 2025 Start time TBC	Day walk 4 - Location and start time for all walks to be confirmed in Training Letter .
Saturday 8 February 2025 Start time 9.00am Parent meeting start time 4.00pm Estimated finish time 5.00pm	In school training day ahead of Camps. Camp Information meeting.
Friday 28 February 2025 Start time 3.30pm Estimated finish time 5.30pm	All - Camp walking kit check. All – Route marking.
Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 March 2025 Start time TBC	Camp 1 – Location and start time for all walks to be confirmed in Training Letter .
Friday 21 March 2025	All - Camp walking kit check.

Start time 3.30pm Estimated finish time 5.30pm	All – Route marking.
Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 March 2025 Start time TBC	Camp 2.
Saturday 5 April 2025 Start time 6.00am	Challenge walk. Final teams and reserves chosen after this walk.
Friday 25 April 20245 Start time 3.30pm Estimated finish time 5.30pm	All - Camp walking kit check. All – Route marking.
Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 April 2025 Start time TBC	Camp 3.
Tuesday 6 May 2025	Routes published on Ten Tors website. Afterschool meeting TBC 3.30pm - 5.30pm.
Wednesday 7 May 2025 Start time 3.30pm Parent meeting start time 6.00pm Estimated finish time 7.30pm	Final kit check for event in SC9. Parent Event Information meeting for event.
Friday 9 May 2025	Participants arrive at basecamp, Okehampton.
Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 May 2025	Ten Tors Challenge 2024 Event. PREDICTED WEEK OF EVENT
Wednesday 11 June 2025	Ten Tors Participant and Parent celebration evening.

It is strongly advised that you attend every walk and aspect of the training in addition to all parent information evenings. I understand and appreciate that things can happen at the last minute, however, students who do not regularly attend walks and meetings will run the risk of being cut from the selection process, so please check these dates before you sign up. Missed walks will not automatically mean you are cut from the training and selection process, but it will be taken into consideration.

In addition to the dates above, there will be briefings and debriefings from Miss Upton for each walk. The time and place of these will be confirmed via Teams.

Dartmoor can be a hostile environment especially in winter and it is important that students are properly equipped. A kit list will be discussed and shared with you at the parents' information meeting at the start of the season, so you can see what is required. Participants will need their day kit from the first walk **and will be checked on Friday 29 November (as above). Full camp kit will be required from the first camp kit check on Friday 28 February.**

The total cost for training will be £80.00 (with school provided transport), or £50.00 (with self-provided transport). This cost includes all camping and associated training costs. Should you be successful in making the final team, there will be a further event entry fee of £40.00.

We strongly believe that this opportunity and experience is one that should be available for all. Thanks to our fantastic fundraising team we are able to offer financial support on a case-by-case basis or fully funded spaces for our Pupil Premium students. Our stores also have much of the kit you will require for the day and camp kit which can be loaned for the duration of the season. If this is something you are concerned about or would be of interest to you, please contact me directly using the e-mail at the bottom of this letter.

In the last few years, we have had competition for places which means we will assess the participants continually and we will have to cut participants that have not shown us the commitment, teamwork or skills required to be successful. Our final team selection will follow the Challenge Walk and not before. This means participants will need the kit for training camps but may still not make the team. We have limited a store of kit which is available on request.

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. By paying the enrolment fee and completing the consent form you are agreeing to give photo permission to South Dartmoor to use any photographs taken during the training or event.

If you are interested in finding out more, we are holding an information evening on **Thursday 10 October at 5.30pm in the Sixth Form building**. The potential participant **AND** a parent must attend to share key information and understand the commitment required.

To register and apply for this year's Ten Tors teams, please complete the 'Expression of Interest' form at <https://forms.office.com/r/uuQ6kJrXif>

This should be completed by **Thursday 10 October**. You are still welcome to attend the information evening after this date, however the information evening will be your last opportunity to sign up for this year's training.

Keep this letter and bring it with you along with any questions to the Introduction Information meeting or please contact me using the email below if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Katie Upton
Outdoor Education Manager

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