



# South Dartmoor Community College

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Empowering everyone to be the best they can be.

29 September 2025

Dear Parent / Carer

## Ten Tors Challenge 2026

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](http://www.tentors.org.uk/challenge/about).

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

As part of the training, you will undertake several 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:

What	Where (Plan A)	When
<b>Launch information evening</b>	<b>Sixth Form Centre</b>	<b>Tuesday 14 October 1700 - 1800</b>
<b>HALF TERM</b>		
<b>Familiarisation (35's only)</b>	<b>Sixth Form Centre followed by Haytor</b>	<b>Saturday 8 November Meet: 0900 End: 1500</b>
Payment deadline	Online	Wednesday 12 November 1700
Kit check <b>Day walk 1</b> <i>Consolidate learning - 35 Refresh - 45/55</i>	AT2/AT5 <b>Parke circular</b>	Friday 28 November 1515 - 1700 <b>Sunday 30 November Meet: 0700/0730</b>
<b>Day walk 2</b> <i>North Moor introduction / refresh</i>	<b>Lydford to Wilsworthy Ranges</b>	<b>Saturday 20 December Meet: 0700/0730</b>
<b>CHRISTMAS</b>		
<b>CHRISTMAS</b>		
<b>Day walk 3</b> <i>Fitness and stamina</i>	<b>Kingswear to Brixham – various finish points, Torbay Coastline</b>	<b>Saturday 10 January Meet: 0700/0730</b>
<b>Day walk 4</b> <i>First independent – 35 Advanced navigation with night nav introduction with shadow support – 45 / 55</i>	<b>Wilsworthy Ranges to Princetown</b>	<b>Saturday 31 January Meet: 0700/0730</b>
<b>Camp information meeting</b> <i>Tuesday lunchtime training</i>	<b>Sixth Form Centre</b>	<b>Thursday 12 February 1700 - 1800</b>
<b>HALF TERM</b> <b>In school training day</b> <i>Pre-training for camping</i>	<b>Sixth Form Centre</b>	<b>Friday 20 February 0800 – 1400</b>
Kit check <b>Camp 1</b>	AT2/AT5 <b>Princetown – Tavistock – Venford</b>	Friday 27 February 1515 - 1700 <b>Saturday 28 February and Sunday 1 March Meet: 0630/0700</b>

Kit check	AT2/AT5	Friday 20 March 1515 – 1700
<b>Camp 2</b>	<b>Rowtor, Okehampton – Hurston – New Bridge</b>	<b>Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 March</b> <b>Meet: 0630/0700</b>
<b>Challenge walk</b> <i>Final teams and reserves chosen after this walk.</i>	<b>Okehampton to South Brent</b>	<b>Saturday 28 March</b> <b>Meet: 0600/0630</b>
<b>EASTER</b>		
<b>EASTER</b>		
Kit check	AT2/AT5	Friday 24 April 1515 – 1700
<b>Camp 3</b>	<b>Rowtor, Okehampton – Hurston – Rowtor, Okehampton</b>	<b>Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 April</b> <b>Meet: 0600/0630</b>
<b>Event Briefing</b>	<b>Sixth Form Centre</b>	<b>Friday 1 May</b> <b>1800 - 1900</b>
Event week: Routes	SDCC, AT2	Tuesday 5 May 1410 - 1700
Event week: Kit check	SDCC, AT2/AT5	Wednesday 6 May 1530 - 1830
Event week: At event	Okehampton Camp	Friday 8 May – Sunday 10 May
<b>HALF TERM</b>		
Celebration evening	Sixth Form Centre	Tuesday 16 June 1800 - 1900

*\*Further information for each walk will be shared in briefings with students, on Teams and via a closed Facebook group.*

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 training and briefing sessions on Tuesday Break 1 every week in AT2 with Miss Upton.**

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 28 November**. **Full camp kit will be required from the first camp kit check on Friday 27 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 training and event. 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 who have not shown us the commitment, teamwork or skills required to be successful, also taking school actions into consideration. 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 **Tuesday 14 October at 5.00pm - 6.00pm in the Sixth Form building**. The potential participant **AND** a parent must attend to share key information and understand the commitment required.

To register an interest 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 **Tuesday 14 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 Information Evening or please contact me using the email below if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Katie Upton  
Outdoor Education Manager

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