



~ TEN TORS ~  
**2016**  
7th - 8th May

# OUTDOOR EDUCATION



everything outdoor at paignton community & sports academy

Dear Parent/Guardian,

November 2015

Your son/daughter has expressed an interest in the Ten Tors Challenge 2016.

For those who are unfamiliar with the Army run Ten Tors event, it involves (depending on age and ability) a two day expedition of 35, 45, or 55 miles between ten nominated Tors on Dartmoor where teams plan, navigate and walk their route without assistance.

Ten Tors 2016 takes place on the **7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> May 2016** and is limited to 2400 individuals - 400 teams of six teenagers. Paignton Community & Sports Academy has been allocated two teams of 35 and 45 mile respectively. This year we will be recruiting a new 35 mile team consisting of Year 10 & 11 students.

**This event requires a great deal of commitment from those taking part** and there will be a number of weekends taken up with training between now and the event. Participants are expected to attend training events. Those attending all training sessions will have a better chance of final selection. **It must be stressed however, that attending all of the training sessions does not guarantee a place in a team. Selection is based on commitment, ability to complete the event and teamwork skills.** It must be appreciated that there are a limited number of places available and the event could take place in challenging conditions.

The training will consist of;

- Regular meetings on Tuesdays after school to focus on areas such as navigation, equipment, survival techniques, teamwork, safety.
- Regular use of the college fitness suite which students must log and evidence.
- Regular training expeditions - most will take place on Dartmoor at weekends.

**A full list of detailing times and type of training will be available on the outdoor education website;**

<http://outdoored.paigntonacademy.org/>

Please be aware that your son/daughter will need a certain amount of equipment for the training and event. I would recommend where possible that students have their own personal equipment as this allows them to get to know their gear well and can make all the difference in the long term. I have attached the complete kit list that the Army insist on for the event.

The college will provide tents, cookers, maps and compasses and does have some equipment available to loan such as expedition rucksacks - these are limited in availability so again I would encourage students to obtain their own equipment.

Correct clothing and equipment for Ten Tors is essential, before the event, the teams equipment is checked stringently by Ten Tors & Dartmoor Rescue Group staff.

We have some generous discount facilities available from local outdoor equipment suppliers; please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any advice on equipment. I would point out that the training walks are conducted in a similar style to the event itself. Therefore good quality equipment is therefore essential. However, please do not rush out and buy expensive equipment at this stage, see what you have around the house and wait until moorland training starts in earnest before any investment is made.

Staff leading students on the moor are fully qualified Mountain or Moorland Leaders and minibuss drivers hold the necessary qualifications.

**Costs: training the teams for Ten Tors is costly (in excess of £5000) and as you can appreciate, the Academy is unable to completely absorb the whole cost. Therefore the cost to take part in Ten Tors is as follows:**

- An initial payment of **£25** to take part in training sessions, this includes the cost of transport, instructors and camping fees. **This is to be paid once application is successful.**
- The final selected team will be required to pay another **£25** in April 2016 prior to the event; this is to help offset entry costs of £150 per team.

Please note that as part of Ten Tors training, students will be given the opportunity to achieve their National Navigation Award, this is a nationally recognised award and would usually cost in excess of £100 to achieve. Out instructors can offer this free of charge.

#### **Initial Training Walk**

There will be a Ten Tors Training walk on Dartmoor **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2015**. Students will be walking and experiencing what it is like to train for Ten Tors.

**STUDENTS MUST APPLY VIA AN APPLICATION FORM, THIS ALSO INCLUDES A SHORT TEST TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO RESEARCH AND FIND OUT ABOUT THE TEN TORS EVENT.**

More details will follow once applications have been received from students. Keep an eye on the website as information will be posted there as well as Twitter **@pscaoutdoored**. **Students should apply via a form which can be picked up from the PE office.**

Again if you need any more information at please do not hesitate to contact me via the website or BRC reception.

**Yours Sincerely,**

**Mr C. Cook (Ten Tors Team Manager)**

**I/C Outdoor Education  
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