

# Parent, Carer and Community Briefing

Friday 5th May 2023



Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust  
...everyone in our Trust.



Okehampton College students have been training for Ten Tors since January, preparing for the event through the wet and cold of a Dartmoor winter.

On the weekend of the Challenge, the College entered 4 teams: 2 teams at 35 miles and 2 teams attempting the 45-mile route, setting off from Okehampton Army camp along with 2400 other young people.

Fog on Saturday morning made navigation difficult and meant the planned parachute display had to be cancelled. But the fog soon cleared leaving a perfect day for walking. All four teams made good progress and were ahead of their planned schedules at the end of the day. After a night camping on the moor, fog again hampered navigation for a few hours, but they all made good time; the 35-mile teams making it back to Okehampton Army Camp between 1100 and 1200. The 45-mile teams arrived back soon after 4pm, everyone making it to the finish before the 5pm deadline.

Thanks to all the staff involved in training: Mr Barnett, Mr Deacon, Miss Dean, Mrs Dennis, Mr Parker, Mr Fox, Mr Tyler, Miss Littlewood-Horner, Miss Morrison, Mr Brett, Mr Sharpe and Mr Byers.

Congratulations as well to all those college students who completed the Ten Tors through Air Cadets and other organisations. It is such a fantastic achievement, and we are so proud of you all.

## Feedback

As part of our on-going work to improve Okehampton College and make the lived experience of students as good as we can, we are looking to make some tweaks to the timings of the school day from September 2023. We would very much like your feedback on the plans. [Please click here](#)



## TEN TORS 2023



Okehampton College 45-mile team:  
India Simmons, Will Bonnett, Ryan Kingdon,  
Joseph Sherlock, Kate Dugard, Tyler Findlay



Okehampton College 35-mile team:  
Toby Skilton, Lewis Pearce, Freya  
Mindova-Sharp, Zara Priday, Ciaran  
Lethbridge, Tom Chapman



Okehampton College 45-mile team:  
Finlay Dwyer, Lawrence Brereton, Oliver  
Gillmore, Nathaniel Bales, Ed Pearce,  
Mia Andrew.



Okehampton College 35-mile team:  
Isaac Jolley, Alfie Nesbitt,  
Reuben Hutchinson, Stanley Wood,  
Anthony Tobin, Quincy Richards

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## YOUTH CULTURAL CHAMPIONS

Our Youth Cultural Champions attended a celebratory workshop on Friday 21st April where they carried out a bonfire ritual and received their certificates, which we later awarded them in assembly. This group have really worked positively and respectfully together through sharing, listening and discussing and the next steps are to continually meet in order to plan how we can disperse their work through the college. Well done Youth Cultural Champions, your approach to this program has been very impressive and inspiring and you will be role models for our future work and our future champions.

## OPEN MORNINGS AT OKEHAMPTON COLLEGE

Throughout this school year we have made significant improvements around communication and in capturing feedback from students, their families and staff. This has been important to us to ensure everyone has a voice and can play an active part in making Okehampton College the best school in Devon. A piece of feedback that has come back to us from several of you is that you would like to see the school in action. Covid amongst other factors has led to some parents, carers and members of the wider community not knowing about all the work we are doing in school.

For this reason, we are offering visits to the College on Tuesday mornings from next half term. You can book a visit by getting in contact with the Reception Team and we look forward to welcoming you.

If you have any questions, please get in touch via email at [admin@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk) or telephone (01837) 650910.

  
Andrew Sweeney  
Principal

## KEY DATES

- Monday 8th May – Bank Holiday
- Monday 15th May – Friday 19th May – Year 7 Transition Leaders Trip to Normandy
- Monday 15th May – Year 11 and Year 13 Exams start
- May Half Term – Monday 29th May 2023 to Friday 2nd June 2023

## THE OKE 8 HABITS

 At  we are	Kind	Respectful
Committed	Hardworking	Tolerant
Independent	Resilient	Responsible