

9 September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are pleased to let you know that your child has shown an interest in joining the Ten Tors training group this year.

Please note that places for the final Ten Tors training programme and event are limited, and completing the training season does not automatically guarantee a spot on the final team.

Phase 1: Selection Walk – Sunday 5th October

The first step in the process is a selection walk across the Quantock Hills. This walk will help determine who qualifies for the training squad. During the walk, students will work in small groups with staff to navigate the terrain and get a realistic sense of the distance and physical challenge involved in the Ten Tors event, which takes place in May.

Phase 2: Training programme September 2025 – April 2026 (See dates)

What We're Looking For:

Selection for Phase 2 of training will be based on several factors, including:

- Teamwork and Attitude
- Physical ability to complete the distance

The Ten Tors challenge is demanding: students will cover 35 miles over two days, carrying full camping and hiking gear without external support.

Next Steps

If your child would like to apply for this year's Ten Tors training programme, please read the following carefully:

- Complete and return the EV5 form (medical/permission slip)
- Submit a £10 payment by Friday 19 September to secure your child's place on the selection walk.
This covers transport and initial equipment costs.

We estimate the total cost for the training programme to include costs for transport, camping, and entry to the event will be £260 payable in instalments throughout the year.

Financial Support

If your child receives free school meals, financial assistance may be available. We are committed to ensuring that no student misses out due to financial reasons.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at school. You can also find more information at www.tentors.org.uk.

Thank you for your support,
Mr M James, Mr S Marshall, and the Ten Tors Team

Plan for the Assessment Day – Sunday 5 October 2025

We will meet at 07:00 hours outside the Somerset College Bus Bays. We will travel on school minibus. We expect to be walking across the Quantocks for 16 miles, taking around 7 hours, and will return at approximately 16:00 hours. We will update return ETA via students as we know more.

Please do not rush out and buy specialist equipment for the assessment walk day.

Students will need:

- **A small rucksack (existing school bag is fine)**
- **Waterproof coat**
- **Waterproof trousers**
- **At least a 1 litre water bottle (or hydration bladder)**
- **Footwear which preferably offers ankle support, e.g. walking boots (not wellington boots).**
We will be walking long distances, on uneven surfaces, and it may be wet
- **Suitable lunch and high-energy snacks to last throughout the day**
- **Spare layers of clothing**
- **Hat and Gloves**
- **Personal Medication**

SAVE THE DATES: TEN TORS TRAINING 2025-26

Whilst we recognise that some students might have competing commitments, we would like to emphasise the importance of completing the full training programme. This allows the Team Manager to sign-off each student as competent to participate in the event, and attendance also forms an important aspect of the selection process too.

Walk 1 Sunday 5 th October All Day
Camp 1 Walk 2 Friday 17 th / Sat 18 th October Leave after school Friday – Return midday Saturday
Camp 2 Walk 3 Friday 14 th Saturday 15 th November Leave after school Friday – Return midday Saturday
Walk 4 Sunday 7 th December All day. Meet at school Early Sunday
Walk 5 Sunday 25 th Jan All day. Meet at school Early Sunday
Wild Camp 1 Walk 6 & 7 28 th / 29 th February Leave School Very Early Saturday - Return Sunday Afternoon
Wild Camp 2 Walk 8 & 9 28 th / 29 th March Leave School Very Early Saturday - Return Sunday Afternoon
Wild Camp 3 Walk 10 & 11 25 th / 26 th April Leave School Very Early Saturday - Return Sunday Afternoon
EVENT Students / staff Registration: Friday 8 th May Event weekend: Saturday / Sunday 9 th / 10 th May