

Tuesday 26th April 2022

**Exe Valley Challenge 2022**

Dear Head Teacher/Team Manager,

I’m delighted to inform you that on Sunday 10th July, the eleventh annual Exe Valley Challenge will return to Isca Academy! It will feature over 140 teams from schools across Exeter and the surrounding region. The aim is to provide an exciting opportunity for children to challenge themselves, and work independently in a fun and safe environment.

**Objective:** after a staggered start from Isca Academy each team will follow a circular route, either a 5, 7 or 10 mile course around the River Exe. The route will not be marked on the ground and teams will have to use basic map reading and orienteering skills. Checkpoints will be marked on the maps provided and teams should aim to complete each stage within the prescribed time. Penalty points will be given to teams arriving either late or early. In addition, a question sheet will be issued to Senior and Junior teams to gain bonus points. All competitors who complete the Challenge will receive a medal.

**Teams:** must start with 4 pupils. This can be made up of any combination of age and gender. The age and gender category in which they compete will be determined by the eldest member of the group. Teams of less than 4 will not normally be allowed to start.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Seniors:** School years 6 & 7 10 miles  | **Juniors:** School years 4 & 57 miles  | **Mini’s:** School years 2 & 35 miles |
| Boys | Boys  | Mixed |
| Girls | Girls |  |
| Mixed | Mixed |  |

There are 7 categories to provide as many opportunities for trophies as possible, plus an additional trophy to be award to the overall winning team.

**Scoring:** the team with the fewest penalty points on completion will be the winner of their category. Teams will be scored out of a maximum of 400 points for the Seniors, 350 points for the Juniors and 300 points for the Mini’s.

**Safety:** The safety of all participants is of paramount importance. We have taken all reasonable measures to make sure this is a safe event for pupils to take part in, involving the police, the Highways Agency, Exeter City Council, Devon County Council, and Devon LA Outdoor Education Advisor, in our planning. On the day of the event, the Team Manager (or nominated member of staff from school or club) must attend and make themselves known to the organisers at registration. For further details of safety procedures please refer to the document `Team Managers Brief’.

**Sponsorship:** Children Hospice South West - over the years this event has raised over £10,000 in sponsorship money for this fantastic, local charity. We would encourage participants to continue this tremendous work by downloading the sponsorship form on the Isca Academy website.

Further essential information is contained in additional documents found on the Isca Academy website - <https://iscaexeter.co.uk/school-life/exe-valley-challenge/>

* Teams Managers Brief
* Initial Entry Form
* Kit List & Training For EVC
* Routes
* Team Number Form
* Parent / Carer Information

Finally, this event has become extremely popular with a growing number of entries. I would encourage everyone to plan ahead by completing the Initial Entry Form – latest submission date will be **Friday 27th May 2022**. Please ensure that we have an email address for you so that we can send you updates in the build up to the event. If you have any questions or require additional support e.g. Assemblies at school, assistance in training teams, please don’t hesitate to contact me on 01392 204082 ext.215 or etyldesley@iscaexeter.co.uk

Signed,



Ed Tyldesley

Outdoor Education Coordinator

Combined Cadet Force Contingent Commander

Teacher of Science