Information Pack for students taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme wishing to volunteer with Turn the Tide Portishead

We are a group of local volunteers who came together as a volunteer group in September 2017 with the aim of trying to keep our seven local beaches free from single use plastics.
Our aims have now expanded to include the education of all age groups about the impact of single use plastics on the environment and, in particular, in our local area because of our proximity to the coastline.

We are also involved with the 2 Minute Beach Clean Board scheme which involved fundraising to provide a board with attached litter pickers and bags to enable anyone to spend 2 minutes or longer picking up litter from a local beach. Our first one was installed on the wall outside the Lido Cafe and we also had the first board in the country to be installed In St Peter's Primary school. We have a further five boards ready to be installed in various locations around Portishead when Covid 19 restrictions are lifted.

Our current project is to get a Muncher Bin (https://egberttaylor.com/products/bigbelly-solar-compactors) bought and installed on the Marina, a hot-spot for discarded litter entering the water and then entering the Bristol Channel and on into the oceans. These are large bins that automatically compress the rubbish and then send a signal when full to the appropriate agency.

In July 2020 we replaced our monthly organised public beach cleans with The Portishead Big Clean. The first one was so successful that we now hold them monthly, The idea is that anyone can go out over a specified weekend to enjoy the fresh air while litter picking their local area, we do of course ask everyone to comply with COVID-19 restrictions in place at the time. Our leader for this event then collates all of the information on how much was collected, from where and how many took part.

Our involvement with the Duke of Edinburgh scheme in Gordano School started with an email from a parent asking if their daughter could volunteer with us. From this we have been able to work out a safe and COVID-19 compliant way for this to happen that also fits in with the parameters set by the D of E Award Scheme in the volunteering section. Once the stipulated hours are completed by the student we are then able to sign off on their assessment for whichever badge they are working towards.

How to Volunteer with Turn The Tide Portishead

We can be contacted by email at turnthetideportishead@gmail.com or on our website www.turnthetideportishead.com either by a parent or student.



- Please then state the name of the student and at least one parent/carer
- Let us know which badge you are working towards.
- State your D of E Id number
- We will then be in touch to say when you can start beach cleaning or litter picking
- A parent must give consent for photos to by used by us on FB etc.

Health and safety and Volunteering Instructions

- We ask that, for your safety, you wear gloves and use litter pickers. We are able to supply Hi Vis jackets litter pickers, gloves and bags which can be picked up **from No. 4 Stonechat Green, BS20 7NP. Please call 07747670306** to arrange to collect these.
- You should pay attention to any safety signs such as **"Beware Soft Mud"**
- Please do not pick up any **sharps i.e. needles, hypodermic syringes or other drug related paraphernalia**.
- If you find objects that look like **flares or explosive devices** please leave alone and tell a responsible adult.
- Log the hours spent on the task.
- Let us know the above by email either weekly or monthly.
- Try to recycle as much as possible.
- We would also like to know the amount of litter you collect, for the "litter log" which we keep for publicity purposes, either by black bin bags or carrier bags.
- We also keep a record of any unusual items found (for example, a doll's arm or a wing mirror!)
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