



## Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Dear Parent/Carer,

Your son/daughter has expressed a wish to participate in the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme, which is being provided through us at school. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a charity (commonly abbreviated to DofE) and is the generic name for a youth awards programme founded in the United Kingdom in 1956 by the late Prince Philip, then Duke of Edinburgh. It is a national award scheme, which is highly respected by school, colleges, universities and employers. To achieve a Silver Award, students will need to complete four sections. These sections are Volunteering, Physical Activity, Skills and an Expedition. More information regarding these four sections can be found on the DofE website at <http://www.dofe.org/> or on our [Duke of Edinburgh page](#) on the Blended Learning Platform. As your child is entering the Award at Silver level, they will need to do additional time on their activities, to account for them not doing the Bronze Award.

If your son/daughter decides they wish to participate in the DofE scheme, there will be a cost. The fees associated with this cover the cost of registering the student with the DofE Award scheme and the school's ongoing maintenance and replacement of tents, stoves and other equipment associated with the provision of the activities and expedition fees. The cost of participation is £100. Should your son/daughter subsequently decide that they do not wish to continue with the Award, unfortunately, refunds **will not be paid**. Therefore, it is important that students think carefully before signing up. As a direct Silver entrant, your child will need to complete the four sections, but at different timeframes to those who achieved the Bronze Award. The timeframes are:

- Volunteering – 6 months
- Physical – 3 or 6 months
- Skill – 3 or 6 months

Your child will get to choose which of the physical or skill section they do for 3 months, but one of the 6 months blocks **MUST** run for an additional 6-month window to account for the time missed not doing Bronze. Therefore, it will take a minimum of 12 months for them to complete the Award. There are 2 mandatory expeditions to complete the Silver Award, a 2-day practice and a 3-day qualifying expedition. The dates for these expeditions have been set as:

- Practice expedition – 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> March 2025
- Qualifying expedition – 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> July 2025

On enrolment, participants will receive a welcome pack, which will provide them with access to eDofE, an online account to record evidence and monitor their progress, limited personal accident insurance and an achievement pack. It also provides access to a discount card with many providers of equipment such as GoOutdoors, Blacks and other outlets. On completion of the Bronze Award, participants will receive a certificate and a badge. If your son/daughter would like to enrol onto the Silver Award, please complete the Microsoft Forms enrolment form [here](#). If there are any aspects you are unable to complete, please leave them blank, but ensure that your form is marked by both the participant and person with parental responsibility to secure their place and make an initial payment of £28.00 through ParentPay by 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Payment of the remaining balance needs to be made by 28<sup>th</sup> February. All enrolment forms need to be completed online by 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

If you have any further enquiries regarding the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,



Mr. Taylor

Duke of Edinburgh Manager

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