



Dear Parent/Carer

19 September 2019

Duke of Edinburgh Award Expression of Interest in Bronze Award for Year 10 students

We are pleased to be able to inform you that we will shortly be starting a new round of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The scheme is open to all Year 10 students. We want to encourage those students who have demonstrated a good attitude to learning and behaviour throughout their time in Year 9 to take part in the DofE Bronze Award. The scheme requires a high level of commitment and students must be willing to put in at least an hour a week of extra-curricular activities.

The Bronze award consists of four components:

1. **Physical**
For your physical activity you need to choose any sport, dance or fitness activity – in short, anything that requires a sustained level of energy and physical activity. For example, playing a sport regularly and showing personal improvement would count.
2. **Skills**
For your skills activity you need to choose an activity that will allow you to prove you have broadened your understanding and increased your expertise in your chosen skill. It should not be a physical activity.
3. **Volunteering**
Volunteering is about choosing to give time to help people, the community or society, the environment or animals. Your volunteering must not be done for a business, but can be undertaken for a charity or not-for-profit organisation.
4. **Training and Expedition**
Training includes after school sessions on map reading, use of a compass, plotting routes, putting up tents, cooking on Trangia stoves and a whole day practice walk. The Expedition Weekend includes two days of walking and one night camping.

The skills, physical and volunteering sections are arranged and carried out by students individually and the DofE website is full of ideas for activities that would be suitable. The training and Expedition side of the award is run by Ashlyns School and involves a significant amount of training in navigation and camp-craft. We reserve the right to only allow a student to participate in the Expedition Weekend if he/she has completed at least two of the three independent sections of the award and attended most of the after school training sessions. If a student does not take part in the Expedition, the cost is non-refundable.

We expect the cost to be within the range of £200 to £250. We will be able to confirm the final cost at the information evening on 15 October. **Please do not send or make a payment at this stage.**

Ashlyns will provide tents, cooking equipment and maps, but students will need personal equipment for the training and expeditions. Complete Outdoors offer a 10% discount to Ashlyns DofE students and are happy to advise on suitable equipment. Cotswold Camping give a 15% discount card on enrolment.

Provisional dates for your diary will be confirmed as soon as possible.

Please complete and return the expression of interest reply slip by Monday 7 October 2019.

If you have any questions, please come along to our information evening at 6.45pm on 15 October, in the Chapel.

We look forward to supporting your son/daughter in taking part in the DofE Bronze Award.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Annis, Mrs M Burt and Mrs H Jones
DofE coordinators

Duke of Edinburgh Award
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Please complete and return this slip by Monday 7 October 2019

Name: _____ Form: _____

I confirm that my son/daughter has discussed the DoE scheme with me and I am happy for him/her to proceed with the application.

Please tick as appropriate to indicate whether you are able to attend the Parents' Information Evening on 15 October at 6.45pm, in the Chapel.

I will be able to attend the Parents' Information Evening

I will not be able to attend the Parents' Information Evening

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) Date: _____