



September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award - Year 9

We are pleased to announce that we have launched the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award to Year 9 in their assembly this week. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is an exciting opportunity to take part in an enjoyable and rewarding programme specifically designed for young people and their personal development. The provisional cost of the award is approx £190 per student and places are limited to 112 students. Payments for the award will be made in installments with financial assistance available. In cases of financial hardship, please contact finance@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk directly.

There are four sections to the award: volunteering, physical, skill and expedition.

Physical, Skill and Volunteering sections

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. Students may choose to continue with a current hobby, or use the opportunity to try something new. They will need to take part in activities consistently for 3-6 months.

Expedition Section

The Expedition side of the award is run by Ashlyns School and involves a significant amount of training in navigation and camp-craft during a practice expedition, followed by a qualifying expedition. Ashlyns will provide the tents, cooking equipment and maps, but students will need to provide the personal equipment for the expeditions. The expedition will involve two days of walking and one night camping. This is for both the practice and assessed expedition.

Provisional dates for the diary:

Training/Practice weekend: 17 - 18 April 2027

Qualifying expedition: 15 - 16 May 2027

Additional dates for route planning and sessions on using the eDofE website will be communicated in due course if your child is successful at securing a place.

How to apply

If your child would like to apply, the first step is for them to complete the short Google form posted on their Intake Google Classroom. The form asks students for basic details and also about what activities they would potentially do for the physical, skill and volunteering sections. Please see the [list](#) here. The deadline for completing this form is Friday 25 September.

We will be sending further information to parents of those students whose application is successful.

Please visit www.DofE.org for further information about the award.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Crawford, Miss V Holmes and Mr S Waymark

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