



15 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I'm delighted to let you know about the launch of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE). I'm the DofE Manager for the Academy and wanted to inform you about what's involved.

Why do DofE?

Doing their DofE is a brilliant way for your young person to discover just how much they are capable of. It gives them the chance to make new friends, follow their passions, learn new skills and make a difference in our community. Achieving a DofE Award is a great way to impress employers too and it helps young people to see themselves differently and gain a new level of confidence. We always say that after taking on your DofE, you know that whatever life throws at you, you're ready to deal with it.

The DofE is non-competitive and a powerful way for every young person to build belief in themselves, whatever their background, interests and abilities.

How it works

There are three levels of DofE Award – Bronze, Silver and Gold. To achieve their award, your child will need to complete four sections – Volunteering, Physical, Skills and the Expedition. **The expedition will be running from Saturday 20 July until Monday 22 July** and will include the practice walk, as well as the qualifying expedition. In addition to this the cost will cover two evenings after school where students will go through the training required for the expedition.

Young people can choose what they would like to do for the first three sections and we will provide all the guidance and support they need. The expedition involves spending three days and two nights in the countryside. We provide comprehensive training beforehand to ensure everyone is fully prepared and has the best possible experience.

Next steps

We hope lots of our Year 10 students will take this opportunity to get involved with DofE. The cost is approximately £165-£185 per student. To secure a place for your child a £50 deposit payment is required. The remaining balance will need to be paid by Wednesday 29 May 2024. Please login to ParentPay to make a payment. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

We have planned an information event for parents/carers and students. Further information regarding this will be sent out in due course if your child is successful in securing a place.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to contact me. The DofE website - dofe.org - has a lot of useful information too. I hope you'll agree that the DofE is the perfect way for your child to feel ready for anything.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

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