



October 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

We are delighted that your child has decided to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh programme at Heanor Gate Spencer Academy. This letter contains some key dates and information regarding the next steps for participating in Bronze DofE.

Key Dates

We would like to host an information evening for both parents and students. This is to give you the guidance needed in order to support your child through the DofE, including more details on how to get started and complete the skill, sport and volunteering sections of the programme. We will also discuss aspects of the expedition, including equipment and planning.

This will take place on **Wednesday 21 October at 5pm**. There will be a short presentation, followed by an opportunity for questions. Both myself and Mrs Barlow will be there until 6pm. If you think you might be late, please still come as there will be some useful information to pass on. Please report to reception on your arrival.

Students will also be expected to come to an after school session on **Thursday 12 November**. This is to help them set up their eDofE accounts, and understand how to use eDofE when logging information for their volunteering, skill and sport. Please note, attendance to this session is essential for students to understand how to complete each section successfully.

Payment plan

The final cost of Bronze DofE will be **£235**. This will be payable over the next four months in installments detailed below:

November 2: £50

December 1: £50

February 1: £50

March 1: £35

If you want to pay for the trip in larger installments, this is not a problem. Please do so via Arbor Pay. **Unfortunately, we are unable to issue any refunds once the installments have been paid.**

Further information

Participants in the Bronze DofE will be added to a Google Classroom in the coming weeks. This is where a lot of the communication will be posted so please ensure your child knows to check this page for any updates, particularly regarding after school sessions.

If you are unable to attend the information evening, we will send out information via email after the meeting to all parents of students who have signed up to DofE. Additionally, if you would like to discuss anything in more detail and cannot make the information evening, please get in touch via email and we can organise a time to talk on the phone.

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.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

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