



Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

Your son/daughter has been invited to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award at school. This year we are launching the Bronze Programme to both Year 9 and year 10 students. This is an exciting extra-curricular opportunity, which has been running successfully at St Edward's School now for many years. This letter gives an overview of the Award, programme ideas plus an enrolment form.

What is the Duke of Edinburgh Award?

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is an extremely rewarding programme which enables students to develop skills such as teamwork, time management, responsibility, commitment and reliability. It is also great fun; in particular the expedition seems to be the favourite part of the award! The Award is also recognised both in the UK and globally by employers, colleges and universities.

What's involved in the Award?

The Award consists of 4 Sections; Volunteering, Skill, Physical and Expedition. For Bronze level, the Volunteering, Skill and Physical sections involve a regular commitment, approximately 1 hour a week, over a 3-month period for two of the Sections, and a 6-month period for the third (as chosen by the student). The sections do not need to be completed at the same time, and can be staggered throughout the year if more convenient. Students may select from a huge range of activities for each section – a full list of options can be found in the attached document. Many students will already be doing activities which they could use towards their Duke of Edinburgh Award or they may have their own ideas for new activities. There are also a number of opportunities through school for the students to complete the Skill, Volunteering and Physical sections while also trying something new, making new friends and learning new skills. Students will need each section signed off by someone who confirms they have completed the section, and how frequently they did the activity – the assessor cannot be a family member.

What about the Expedition Season?

The Bronze Expedition season takes place over 3 non-consecutive weekends with the final weekend being the students' assessment. This involves each participant carrying everything they will need for this time – including food, stoves, clothes, tents and sleeping bags. Students walk in groups of 4-7 and a full training programme is provided. Training topics include map and compass work, navigation skills, first aid, cooking and use of stoves, personal and group kit and risk assessment. Dates are to be confirmed. (There will also be a cost incurred for kit requirements.)

How can I find out more?

If you would like further information about the Award, please visit the Duke of Edinburgh Award website at www.dofe.org.

If you would like your student to take part in the Award, please complete the Microsoft form which has been emailed to you, along with making a deposit payment of £24 on Wisepay to cover initial DofE costs. Students will also need to complete the Programme Planner document and await further details of a meeting to set these planners up online.

The cost of the expedition will be payable later in the year with an estimated cost of £230. The total cost will be confirmed next term.

Yours sincerely,

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Duke of Edinburgh Award Group Co-Ordinator

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