



26 February 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Launch of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award to Year 9 Students

I am delighted to announce the launch of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award to Year 9 students.

Undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) is a brilliant way for a young person to discover just how much they are capable of. Achieving a DofE Award is a great way to impress employers too, and helps young people to see themselves differently and gain a new level of confidence. The DofE is non-competitive and a powerful way for every young person to build belief in themselves, whatever their background, interests and abilities. For more details please go to www.dofe.org.

There are three levels of DofE Award – Bronze, Silver and Gold. For Year 9 students we are intending that they achieve their Bronze award before the end of this academic year and progress to their silver in the next. If students wish to complete their Gold award, this can be done with their post-16 provider.

To achieve their award, your young person will need to complete four sections;

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Volunteering | 3. Skills |
| 2. Physical | 4. 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 Bronze Expedition involves spending two days and one night in the countryside. We provide comprehensive training beforehand to ensure everyone is fully prepared to have the best possible experience.

The **cost is a highly competitive price of £50.00 per student**, compared to some schools charging upwards of £200.00 per award. **If your child is interested in taking part and is eligible for FSM they will receive a 30% reduction, reducing the cost to £35.00 per student.** Included in the price is £28.00 towards DofE membership which lasts until the age of 24. The remaining amount contributes to the purchase of certificate, transport and items needed for the expeditions.

A Parent/Carer Information Evening has been arranged for **Tuesday 5 March at 5.30pm** in the Main Hall. If you have any questions at all, please come to the evening and I will confirm just how much of an amazing opportunity it is. To sign up, please make a payment on the MCAS app via the 'Products' page on the Duke of Edinburgh 2024 section by 12 April 2024. By making this payment you will also be giving your consent for your child to participate in the DofE Award.

Yours sincerely,

Ms L Crane
Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator