

Dear Parent / Carer,

I'm pleased to let you know that students in Year 9 can now sign up for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE).

There are four sections that participants have to complete - the Skills, Volunteering, Physical and an Expedition. Participants can choose what they'd like to do for their Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections and most activities can count.

We will provide guidance and support, and students can either choose to continue an activity they already do or discover something completely new. It is expected that participants are self-motivated and organised with their activities. Support will be provided by drop in sessions after school and information will be sent to them via their school email address. They'll also be signed up to a Google classroom that they are expected to check and then follow any information provided on there.

Activities for each section take a minimum of one hour a week over a set period of time, so they can fit around studying, hobbies and social lives.

### **eDofE and the DofE app**

Participants can create their DofE programme and record their progress using eDofE, the DofE's digital system, available online at [eDofE.org](http://eDofE.org) and through the DofE app – downloadable for free from Google Play and the App Store.

If your child decides to enrol, we will set up their eDofE account and they will receive details of how to sign in and get started through their school email address.

### **About the expedition**

The Expedition section involves your child working as part of a small team. They will complete In-school Training to prepare them for their Practice Expedition followed by the Assessed Expedition, where they'll be assessed by Lupine Adventures, a DofE Approved Activity Provider (AAP).

Due to popularity we envisage that there will be two cohorts that complete the Bronze Award Expedition that consists of a 5-day programme, which is detailed below with the dates that the expedition will run on.

Participants will need personal kit such as appropriate clothing and walking boots to complete the expedition but as a school we have tents that the teams can use, a limited number of rucksacks available to borrow and camping stoves are provided.

## Cost

The sign-up cost covers your child's participation place and Welcome Pack, which will be sent to their home address and includes their personalised DoFE Discount Card.

### **Bronze Award cost:**

Sign-up fee	£22.50
<b>Cohort 1:</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept in school training 13-14 <sup>th</sup> September 1-night & 2-day practice expedition 20-21 <sup>st</sup> September 1-night & 2-day assessed expedition	£292.50
<b>Cohort 2:</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept in school training 27 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> September 1-night & 2-day practice expedition 4 <sup>th</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> October 1-night and 2-day assessed expedition	
Total	£315

**We realise that this is a substantial amount to pay in one lump sum and on sign up the payment must be committed to and paid for, since Lupine Adventures require booking in advance. If the cost of taking part is prohibitive, please speak to me as there may be financial support available to you.**

To make it more affordable we have devised the following **payment plan**:

Non-refundable deposit (to confirm place & create eDoFE account)	£63
Jan 31 <sup>st</sup>	£63
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	£63
May 31 <sup>st</sup>	£63
June 30 <sup>th</sup> (final payment)	£63

**\*This can be paid in as many instalments as you wish (eg £15.00, per week, £30.00 every two weeks) providing that the correct amounts have been received by the dates specified.**

### **Signing up**

If your child would like to take part, please complete and return the enclosed enrolment form before the end of term on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December, either by email or by printing out and asking your child to hand it to their form tutor. Once I have received this, the payment plan will be added to your child's Ipay account and once the deposit has been received, they will shortly receive their welcome pack and eDoFE sign up information.

If you would like any further information in the meantime, please feel free to contact me. Many thanks for your support.

Yours faithfully,

Charlene Thomas

**DoFE Manager**

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