

TON/hcl

15 November 2021

Dear Parents/Carer

Re: Duke of Edinburgh Award

Your son/daughter has shown an interest in enrolling in the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme began in 1956 and is now widely recognised by employers, colleges, universities and the forces as a powerful tool for the development of young people.

What will it involve?

Your son/daughter will have to complete the following five sections over the next year and a half: Volunteering, Skills, Physical, Expedition and Residential.

The minimum time requirement for each section is expressed in months during which time they will need to undertake a regular commitment of at least one hour per week. It is expected that the Skill, Volunteering and Physical Recreation sections will be completed in the student's own time, with some assistance from both the school and parents.

Gold Award (16+years)

Volunteering	Skills	Physical Recreation	Expedition	Residential
12 months	One section for 12 months and the other for 6 months		Plan, prepare for, and under-take a 4 day/3-night venture.	Undertake a shared activity in a residential setting, away from home for 5 days and 4 nights.

Entrants who have not completed the silver level of the award must undertake a further 6 months in either the Volunteering or the longer of the Skills or Physical Recreation sections.

The two expeditions and the training session will be provided by an outside provider, BXM Expedition, who we have had to employ due to vast numbers completing the award. Dates are below and students MUST attend each of these, no other dates will be available. BXM provide group kit such as tents and stoves, all other kit and food is the participant's responsibility and further information will be provided at the training sessions.

Dates for expeditions and training are as follows:

Expedition Training 27th February 2022
Practice Expedition 20th -24th April 2022
Assessed Expedition July 2023 TBC

Each participant must attend all the above sessions

The Duke of Edinburgh joining fee is £45.00, the total cost of the two expeditions, transport cost, a two-night stay in a youth hostel, all campsite fees and the training session provided by BXM expeditions, will be approximately **£500**, but is dependent on the number of participants. Once I have the total numbers of Gold participants, a price and payment plan will be sent out.

If your son/daughter wishes to participate in the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, please could you ask them to complete the following:

1. Fill in the Gold Award Programme Planner for the Volunteering, Skills and Physical sections and return to Mrs O'Neill.
2. Fill in the Duke of Edinburgh enrolment form, return to Mrs O'Neill in F8
3. Payment of £45.00 made via Parent Pay.

The deadline for completion of the above tasks is **Friday 26th November 2021**

Should you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Yours faithfully



Mrs T O'Neill
Duke of Edinburgh Manager

REPLY SLIP TO MRS O'NEILL – F8 26th November 2021

Name of Student: -----Form: -----

I/We* give permission for the above student to take part in the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

I/We* have paid £45.00 non-refundable enrolment fee via Parent Pay.

Signature of Parent/Carer.....Date:

(*Delete as necessary)