



TON/rmc

08 September 2025

Dear Parents/Carer

Re: Duke of Edinburgh Award

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 to be arranged

Practice Expedition 14th - 17th April 2025

Assessed Expedition 6th – 10th July 2025

Each participant must attend all the above sessions.

Headteacher Mr R Bernard MA

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Northampton School for Boys

An independent Academy for the Town and County



The total cost of the enrolment fee, two expeditions, transport cost, a one-night stay in a youth hostel, all campsite fees, tent, stove and fuel hire and the training session provided by BXM expeditions, will be approximately **£600**. This may change slightly depending on numbers but this will be clear on the enrolment form.

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

Yours Sincerely

Mrs T O'Neill
Duke of Edinburgh Manager
EVC
Head of Geography

Headteacher Mr R Bernard MA

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