

9th July 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme 2021/22

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) aims to provide for young people an enjoyable, challenging and rewarding programme of personal development, which is of the highest quality and the widest reach.

The key principles of the award are that it should be:

Non-competitive – a personal challenge, not a competition.

Available to all – anyone can do it!

Voluntary – it is up to the individual what they do, it is their leisure time.

Flexible – the programme is designed by the individual, for them.

Balanced – it will stretch them in all directions.

Progressive – they improve at their own pace.

Achievement focused – they can't fail.

A marathon, not a sprint – it takes more than a short burst of enthusiasm.

Personal development – it's the taking part that matters; getting an award is the icing on the cake.

Enjoyable – it's about getting out there and having fun!

Due to COVID we have had to run on limited numbers and were not able to launch and register any new participants last year. This was because of the uncertainty around students being able to complete their awards during national restrictions.

Ideally, this year, we want to register the eligible year groups and provide every student who missed out last year with the opportunity to participate. Logistically, this will take additional planning and organising.

Therefore, we would like to introduce a "register of interest" step, before we move ahead with the planning stage for the next academic year. This will not guarantee your child a place, but will give us an idea of how many students would like to take part.

Please read each section carefully and ensure you are able to fully commit to the requirements for each level.

Current Year 8 & 9

You are invited to participate in the Bronze award level. You will need to commit to a minimum of 6 weekend days and 2 full weekends across the academic year, to learn the skills required to undertake the overnight camping. The weekends will include your practice expedition and your assessed expedition. You will also be required to attend one fortnightly lunchtime club that will focus on your three other sections of the award: Volunteering, Skills and Physical.

STOKESLEY SCHOOL, STATION ROAD, STOKESLEY,
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Current Year 10 & 11

You are invited to participate in the Silver award level. You will need to commit to a minimum of 2 weekend days, 2 full weekends and several Wednesday evening training sessions (6:00pm - 7:30pm) across the academic year, to learn the skills required to undertake the overnight camping. The weekends will include your practice expedition and your assessed expedition. You will also be required to attend one fortnightly lunchtime club that will focus on your three other sections of the award: Volunteering, Skills and Physical.

Current Year 11 & 12

You are invited to participate in the Gold award level. You will need to commit to a minimum of 4 weekend days, 3 full weekends and several Thursday evening training sessions (6:00pm - 8:30pm) across the academic year, to learn the skills required to undertake the overnight camping. The weekends will include your practice expedition and your assessed expedition. You will also be required to attend one fortnightly lunchtime club that will focus on your three other sections of the award: Volunteering, Skills and Physical.

***Please note, Year 11 students MUST have completed their Bronze award in order to skip Silver and move onto Gold.

The **total** cost for each levels is:

Bronze	£125	1 practice expedition, 1 assessed + the assessor fee
Silver	£175	1 practice expedition, 1 assessed + the assessor fee
Gold	£450	1 practice expedition, 1 training expedition 1 assessed (to the Lake District) + the assessor fee.

This cost will be asked for in two payments, for Bronze and Silver and four payments for Gold throughout the year. You can of course pay in one go if you wish to do so, as the full balance will show via ParentPay.

	September 2021	February 2022		
Bronze	£50	£75		
Silver	£75	£100		
	September 2021	November 2021	January 2022	March 2022
Gold	£100	£100	£100	£150

The first payment in September covers the cost of registration (welcome pack, badge and certificate) and is **non-refundable**. Future payments will cover the cost of the expeditions including: cost of campsite, Mountain Leaders, assessors, replenishment of stock, equipment hire. Equipment such as tents, rucksacks, roll mats, first aid kits, emergency shelter and Trangia / gas stoves are available to borrow from school but students are encouraged to buy more of their own equipment as they progress through the levels. **All students must provide their own walking boots, walking socks, outdoor clothing and waterproofs.**

The school relies on a team of volunteers to run the award. The more volunteers we have supporting, the more participants we can facilitate. Full training will be provided to all volunteers as well as enhanced clearance required when working with children.



Detailed information about the award in general can be obtained from the D of E website,
www.dofe.org

If you wish to express your child's interest in any of the awards or volunteer to support, can you please complete the attached [Google Form](#)

The deadline for expressing interest is Wednesday 14th July at 4:00pm.

Yours sincerely



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