

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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June 2024

Dear Year 8 and existing Bronze DofE Parents and Carers

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme - Bronze and Silver

We are delighted to be able to offer the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award to Year 9 pupils and Silver to Year 10 pupils (current Year 8 and 9) from September.

Students will be able to design their own programme, which can be geared to their choice and personal circumstances, and also to local provision. There is a deadline for completion of the three (non-expedition) sections, so please do bear this in mind before applying. To apply:

- Look at the list of activities that can be considered for each section. It is important that students choose carefully and make sure that activities chosen are on this list, otherwise they might not count, see attachment.
- Complete a Programme Planner for each activity (except the expedition). This should include details of the activity, as well as details of the assessor. Please note that family members cannot be an assessor for their own child.
- Complete the attached enrolment form ensuring that the email address used is one that is **checked frequently**. Please type this to ensure details are transferred correctly.

Sections require a commitment of an hour a week for a minimum of 13 weeks (for a three month activity), or 26 weeks (for the six month activity). ONLY when all 3 sections - Volunteering, Physical and Skills - are completed (by 31st March, Easter 2025) will students then be able to continue on to the camping part of the expedition phase.

The cost of the **Bronze Award is £87, Silver £80**, a ParentMail payment item will be made available shortly. This covers the e-account and enrolment pack as well as providing some funds towards training and transport. Bronze students will also have a 3-hour emergency outdoor First Aid course delivered by Lifeline Training (the Silver price assumes the student has already completed this First Aid training, if not it will be an additional cost). This represents fantastic value for money and is also thanks to the goodwill of staff who give up their time to help with training and supervision of the expedition section.

Once I receive the enrolment form, programme planners and fee, I will then set students up with their own eDofE account on which all activity details and assessors reports will need to be uploaded. The e-account can be used by the student in any part of the world, until they are aged 25.

There is an obvious commitment required by the students, but there is also an expectation for parents and carers to support their child with transport and other needs. It is expected that if you agree to your child taking part in the award you are also agreeing to such support.

Expedition training will take place during Spring and Summer 2025. Students will need personal expedition kit including boots, rucksack, sleeping bag and tent - a kit list will be circulated nearer the time.

Please note that the **closing date for applications is Thursday 27th June**, to allow time for students to be set up before the summer holiday. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, more details and information can also be found on the DofE website.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Wagstaff
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