



Traditional **Values**

Contemporary **Aspirations**

Creative **Curiosity**

ML.22.23.0046.SWO
22nd November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) – Bronze Award

I am writing to inform you of an exciting opportunity for Year 9 pupils; we are pleased to offer them the opportunity to work towards achieving their Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Bronze award. Recently, Year 9 tutors have informed pupils of this opportunity and provided them information regarding the programme and award, as well as providing them with a registration form to take home if they have expressed an interest, which will require your consent and eventual payment of £40 to secure a place once participants are selected. The deadline for applications will be Monday 5th December. After which, places will be confirmed via E-mail and the registration fee will be payable on ParentPay.

For details of the award, please see the following video – www.padlet.com/MLJSM/DofE, as well as information below:

What is the Duke of Edinburgh's Award?

The DofE is one of the most recognized youth awards in the UK and internationally. For many, it is a life-changing adventure which will help participants develop skills for future education and employment. The DofE participants have the chance to discover just how much they're capable of. It's a great way to meet new people, try new things, do what you love and make a difference in your community.

What does the bronze award consist of?

Completion of the bronze award consists of four sections: volunteering, physical, skills and an expedition. The volunteering, skills and physical sections require an average of one hour a week dedicated to each section for 3 months, with any one section (of a participant's choosing) continuing for 6 months in total. These sections do not all have to be completed at the same time, or even before the expedition. Pupil's selections do not have to be costly or a new activity. Many of your child's existing activities, sports and hobbies may fit into each section. Some skills and volunteering can also be done entirely online if needed.

There are pots of funding available from the DofE throughout the year to help with the costs of any activities or equipment needed for activities, with many providers offering reduced participation costs for DofE participants. Participants will also receive guidance, training, and support with selecting their activities for each of their sections. For the expedition section, this will consist of two weekends in May-July 2023; a practice, and an assessed expedition in the local region, with remote support from staff members, further details of the expedition will be communicated later in the year.



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When will this take place?

Training and instruction sessions will take place for one hour after school, typically on Mondays. A timetable will be communicated to participants and parents and carers after registration. Pupils will also have 1-2 days off their timetable during 2023 to receive their first aid, navigation and camping training, these dates will be communicated with plenty of notice, allowing class teachers to issue pupils with catch-up work for lessons missed.

The expedition section will consist of two weekends, spaced approximately 1 month apart. Dates for these expeditions will also be communicated in advance.

The registration form will allow you to indicate any dates which your child will be unavailable between the months of May-July, so that we can look to avoid these dates.

Are there any requirements to participate?

All pupils in Year 9 are welcome to apply. Completion of the award is voluntary and as such we as staff and yourselves as parents and carers can only encourage and not enforce completion of the award. Therefore, pupils will need independence, resilience, and commitment to complete each section. Pupils with a significant number of behaviour incidents are welcome to apply but must understand that if they receive detentions on Monday afterschool (for incidents on previous Fridays) that they will miss parts of their training, and we will not be able to take such pupils on the expedition unless we are confident that they are both sufficiently trained and not a risk to themselves or other participants or the public due to their behaviour. We will reserve the right to prohibit students from the expedition section if we believe this to be true.

How will participants be selected?

Should there be more applicants than places available, we will select these fairly and equitably from all submitted before the deadline (Monday 5th December). Pupils must understand that expeditions take place in small teams, and that we cannot guarantee that they will be placed with members of their friend groups, so therefore should expect to work with pupils beyond their social circle. Pupils will be placed into teams in advance of the expedition so as to familiarise themselves with each other.

How much does it cost?

The cost of participation is £140 per pupil, payable in installments of £40 (prior to Christmas, once registration is confirmed), £50 (in early 2023 for the first aid training and practice expedition) and £50 (for the final expedition and award verification). Payment will be made available on ParentPay once the application deadline passes.

The £140 participation fee includes:

- Registration and receipt of a welcome pack dispatched to your home address
- Use of the eDofE platform where pupils record their activities



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- Full day of first aid training, resulting in a first aid certificate valid for three years
- Two weekend expeditions away (sat-sun) in May-July of 2023 in the local region, as well as practice map-reading/route planning training in the local area.
- Provision of shared expedition equipment such as stoves, tents, bags, maps etc. for both expeditions – The school reserves the right to issue an additional charge if this equipment is misused, damaged or requires extensive cleaning after use.
- Support, guidance, and expedition training throughout the year
- Discounts on outdoor/sports stores, and the opportunity to purchase outdoor clothing and equipment at significantly reduced prices.

Additional costs – The DofE does have various pots of funding available throughout the year to support with these for participants who meet funding criteria. Further details of this funding can be communicated after registering.

- Pupils will need appropriate outdoor/sports attire for summertime walking, this includes a pair of suitable outdoor boots (starting from approximately £20 at most outdoor stores) as well as a waterproof coat or jacket.
- As mentioned above, pupil's choices of physical, skill and volunteering may incur additional costs, this is entirely at the discretion of yourself

If you have any questions prior to applying, please do not hesitate to contact me, either by telephone at the school or via e-mail at james.smith@maletlambert.hull.sch.uk .

For any queries related to the training and expeditions, please direct these to andy.lowthorpe@maletlambert.hull.sch.uk .

Yours faithfully,

Mr J Smith and Mr A Lowthorpe
Duke of Edinburgh Leads