



Principal: Mr R. J. King, MEd

Dear Families,

The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

In year 9 students have the opportunity to undertake their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award as an extra-curricular activity. Last year we had over 100 year 9 students take part. This letter outlines how to sign up to participate.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE) is non-competitive and open to all young people – it's about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries. More information can be found at www.dofe.org/do.

Students will need to undertake a Skill, Physical Activity, Volunteering and Expedition as part of the Award. The timescales for these activities are outlined below. These do not need to be new to the student and can be something that they are already doing and plan to continue to do (e.g. music lessons or sport clubs). They can all be undertaken simultaneously and will need to fit around their College studies. Students will not be allowed to participate in the expeditions until 2 of these sections are complete.

- Volunteering, physical and skill sections: 3 months
- Students choose one of the above sections to complete for a further 3 months
- Expedition section: 2 days/1 nights (+ training day hike)

For the students to participate in the award they need to be able to attend Friday lunchtime training sessions (not every week). There will also be a training day hike in term 4 and the final expedition which will take place during enrichment week. If students are unavailable during enrichment week they will not be able to participate in the award. However, they will still be able to participate in the Silver award in year 10.

Finances:

The cost of participating in the award comes to £90. This includes registration for the DofE Award (non-refundable £24); a day hike and the 2-day assessed expedition along with a DofE assessor. As a college, we will provide group kit for the students such as tents, stoves, compasses, maps and first aid kits. We have tried to keep the cost to as little as possible whilst still providing a high-quality experience to the students.

Once all application forms have been collated, I will contact all participating students' families with details of how and when to pay. There will be the option to pay in three instalments. There is financial support available that we can apply for and the questions on the registration form will help identify these students.

If your child would like to sign up for the award I need 2 forms. The deadline for both forms is Friday 14th October.

1. **The first is an online google form which can be found [here](#). This needs to be completed by you, the adult.**
2. **The second is a draft program planner that is attached and was handed out at the student interest meeting on Thursday 7th October at lunchtime and must be returned to their tutor.**

Filling in the draft programme planner:

This is a first draft so it can be changed, and I do not expect all details (such as assessor information) to be known right away. I am looking to see that each student has an idea of what they would like to do for all three sections. To help students fill out the programme planner there are downloadable lists of section ideas on our website (homepage → college life → Duke of Edinburgh).

Kind Regards,

Dr J Walsh (j.walsh@stbcc.org)

Duke of Edinburgh Award Manager

