



16 October 2024

Dear Student and Parent/Carer

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh – Year 10

I write to inform you about an exciting opportunity for Year 10 students. The Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award is an extra-curricular award scheme aimed at 13-24 year olds. It is designed to develop new skills, improve fitness, provide an opportunity to volunteer and a chance to develop lasting friendships and memories. At HGS we offer the Bronze award to Year 10 students and the Gold award to Year 12 and 13 students.

How it works

It will usually take between 6 and 12 months to complete the Bronze programme.

The Bronze award is split into 4 sections

- Volunteering section: 3 months
- Physical section: 3 months
- Skills section: 3 months
- Expedition section: 2 days/1 night
- You also have to spend an **extra three** months on **one** of the **Volunteering, Physical or Skills** sections.

Activities for each DofE section take a minimum of **one hour a week** over a set period of time, so they can be fitted in around academic study, hobbies and social lives. Development and regular progress must be shown, and all activities must be completed by the participant's 25th birthday, however we encourage students to finish their Bronze award by the end of Year 10.

Expedition section

For the expedition section we work in collaboration with a local provider, Lupine Adventure (<https://www.lupineadventure.co.uk/>). With expected high numbers of participants, we plan to split the cohort in half and run expedition events on the following dates:

- **Saturday 10 – Sunday 11 May 2025** – Cohort 1 Practice expedition
- **Saturday 17 – Sunday 18 May 2025** – Cohort 1 Assessed expedition
- **Saturday 7 – Sunday 8 June 2025** – Cohort 2 Practice expedition
- **Saturday 14 – Sunday 15 June 2025** – Cohort 2 Assessed expedition
- **Saturday 28 – Sunday 29 June 2025** – Cohort 3 Practice expedition
- **Saturday 5 – Sunday 6 July 2025** – Cohort 3 Assessed expedition

For the practice expedition, each expedition group will be trained and supported by a qualified instructor who delivers the necessary expedition training in preparation for the assessed expedition. Both practice and assessed expeditions are 2 days/1 night. Students will camp in tents at local campsites. Students will need to be dropped off and collected by parents at designated points at the start and end of the expedition – details to follow.

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Learning Trust Alliance Teacher Training Teaching School Hub

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In school training

To cover all the pre-expedition training and planning there will be 3 after school sessions (details to follow). It is important that participating students attend these training events.

Costs

Route	Cost	Details
Registration and welcome pack	£28	This is non-refundable. Once registered on the award, students will receive a welcome pack through the post. This contains important information about the award including a 'keeping track book' that they use to record their assessor reports. If students don't complete the award during their time at HGS, their account remains active, and they have until their 25 th birthday to complete the award.
Expedition	£237	This includes the events mentioned above. Students that complete all 4 sections will achieve certificates for each section and a badge to recognise their achievement.
Licence fee	£20.50	HGS pays for the licence to deliver the DofE award. This is a contribution to that fee.
Equipment	£4.50	This is for equipment that is borrowed from HGS. This allows us to purchase/repair necessary equipment that can be lent to students. This includes gas, stoves and tents
Total	£290	

We do understand that the cost may be prohibitive for some families, and we would not wish to preclude any students from taking part on this basis. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact hgsfinance@hgs.rklt.co.uk.

Next steps

- If you would like to participate in the award, please click on link below to complete the Application Form by **7pm on Monday 18 November**. This **needs to be completed by students** on HGS iPads, as they need to be signed in to their account to access the form.

[Bronze DofE Application Form](#)

Many thanks for taking the time to read this information. If you would like further information about the award, please look at the D of E website: <https://www.dofe.org>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely



Mr Kempton

Co-ordinator of Outdoor Education
Duke of Edinburgh Award Co-ordinator
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Start your Bronze DofE



BRONZE

What is the DofE?



The DofE is a life-changing adventure you don't want to miss.

It's about going the extra mile – learning new skills for work and life, getting fitter, helping others and exploring the countryside.

Millions of young people in the UK have already done their DofE.

Now it's your turn.



BRONZE

What is the DofE?



Meet the team



Mr Kempton

Mrs Chesworth

Mr Normanshire

Mr Gee

Any questions? Please don't hesitate to come
and ask one of us

How do I choose my activities?

There's loads to choose from — most activities can count towards your DofE.

Maybe you want to try something new? Or get better at something you're already doing? Your DofE can be whatever you want it to be.

Activities for each DofE section take a minimum of one hour a week over a set period of time, so they can fit in around your studies and life outside school.

Bronze (Year 9+)	Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
	3 months	3 months	3 months	2 days 1 night
Plus a further 3 months in either the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section				



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What will you do?



Volunteering

Volunteering's all about making a difference to others' lives.

You can choose the cause that means most to you.

From coaching a local football team to starting a recycling campaign, you'll give up your time to change things for the better.

It's extremely rewarding — and it can give you the chance to experience the world of work.

Physical

The Physical section is a chance for you to focus on your health and fitness — and have fun along the way.

Try something different or concentrate on something you already do. From Zumba to football, skateboarding to walking — almost any dance, sport or fitness activity can count.

You can join a team or do it on your own. It's up to you.



BRONZE

What will you do?



Skills

From podcasting to playing an instrument, the Skills section lets you learn a new talent, develop existing skills and find something you love doing.

If you're interested in a specific field, this could be the perfect chance to do something related to it. If you're interested in photography, for example, you could do that as your skill.

You'll grow in confidence and get a real sense of achievement.

Expedition

Your expedition will give you lifelong memories.

With a team of friends, you'll plan your aim, choose your location and do some training to make sure you're prepared — then spend two days and one night away.

You can choose how you travel. You could do it on foot, by bike, canoe, kayak, wheelchair, sailing boat or even on horseback.



Expedition section



For the expedition section we partner with an organisation called Lupine Adventure



You will participate in:

- 2 day practice expedition **and**
- 2 final expedition.

These events take place in the Yorkshire Dales.

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Why do your DofE?



So why should you do your DofE?

It's hard to list all the benefits of achieving your Bronze Award, so here's a quick snapshot. You'll...

- Have lots of fun
- Get healthier and happier
- Meet incredible people and make lasting friendships
- Have amazing new experiences
- Find talents you didn't know you had
- Gain skills that employers value, which you can reference on your CV
- Become more confident and independent
- Stand out from the crowd in college, university and job applications
- Make memories that will last a lifetime.



"As an actor I know how much Award holders' experiences and the skills they've developed matter. Without determination and passion I wouldn't be where I am today."

Benedict Cumberbatch, actor.



"Life doesn't naturally happen, you've got to get involved. What better way to do that than do your DofE. As an employer I want to work with people who have a range of skills and can see things through."

Deborah Meaden, Entrepreneur and Dragons' Den Investor

Cost



£290

This covers your registration, practice and final expeditions

Additional costs:

Kit: you may need to buy/borrow walking boots, sleeping bag and waterproof jacket and trousers. All technical kit such as maps, compasses, tents and stoves can be borrowed from school.

Things to consider



In school training

You will be organised into expedition groups and receive in school training afterschool on Mondays or Thursdays between January and March

- Introduction and registration
- First aid
- Meal planning
- Navigation training
- Expedition planning- Route cards and maps

Dates



5 November- Launch assembly and letters home

18 November- Application form closes at 6pm

29 November- Confirmation letter sent home with further instructions

In school training- Mondays or Thursdays after school January-March 2025

Expedition dates-

Cohort 1: 2 weekends in May (10-11 & 17-18)

Cohort 2: 2 weekends in June (7-8 & 14-15)

Cohort 3: 2 weekends (28-29 June & 5-6 July)

Check your family calendars.

BRONZE

How do I sign up?



Are you ready to volunteer, get fit, learn and go on expedition? The DofE is one amazing adventure you'll never forget.

So, what are you waiting for?

You will **all** be sent an email home today highlighting this information.

Complete the [Application form](#) by 18 November 6pm.

Please do this on student iPads.