



# The Polesworth School

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## ENSURING EXCELLENCE

May 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your son or daughter has expressed an interest in taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. The DofE Award is the world's largest young people's achievement award. It is *a flexible programme that helps to develop young people for life and work*, it brings together four elements that students complete over the course of 6-12 months. These four elements are volunteering, skill, physical and an overnight walking expedition.

The award is an excellent opportunity for our students to develop and learn new skills while gaining confidence and self-esteem. The award does require commitment and therefore support at home is essential.

Unfortunately, the number of places is limited and as the Duke of Edinburgh's Award is extremely popular, students who apply will go into a random draw for the places available on next year's award. However, students can sign up with a 'buddy' to ensure that everyone who is selected will know at least one other student.

In the autumn term there will be an information evening for all parents and students who are successful in their application. At this meeting I will share more information with you about how the award runs in school, what to expect as a parent/guardian and what the students will be doing. It will also be a chance to ask questions.

At this point it is important for you to know a few things before your son/daughter applies.

### **Award Levels**

The DofE is available at three levels; Bronze, Silver and Gold. The Bronze award is open to students aged 14 or in year 9 upwards, Silver age 15 or year 10 upwards and Gold is available from age 16.

Therefore, we are offering the Bronze award to students currently in year 8 and 9, and the Silver to students currently in year 10 and 11, for the September start.

### **Costs**

The costs of the awards are £80 for Bronze and £120 for Silver. This can be paid in three instalments: the first of £25 in October. The second and third instalments will be due before the Christmas holidays in December and before the half term break in February.

Once the first instalment is paid your child will be registered with DofE and will receive their welcome pack and eDofE login which will allow them to begin recording their progress.

These costs cover the kit that will be loaned by the school (such as tents, cooking stoves & fuel), campsite fees, coaches, training, resources used in school and their certificate and badge (on completion).



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### **Expedition Dates**

The dates below are the provisional expedition dates that your son/daughter will need to be available on in order to complete the award in 2022/23.

#### **Bronze:**

Practice: Saturday 29th – Sunday 30th April 2023

Qualifying: Saturday 24th – Sunday 25th June 2023

#### **Silver:**

Practice: Saturday 27th – Sunday 28th May 2023

Qualifying: Friday 14th – Sunday 16th July 2023

For your child to apply for this award, please use the QR link below and fill in the form before Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

Application Form:



If you would like to have a look at what the Award has to offer, have a look at their website:

<http://www.dofe.org/>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs R Stone  
Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator  
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