



10 October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Duke of Edinburgh

I am delighted to inform you that we are ready to formally launch our recruitment for the **Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Bronze award**.

If your child would like to take part in the Bronze Award, please complete the Enrolment Form (below) and return it to Mrs Sandison by Thursday 13th November. If printing is an issue, please ask your child to collect a paper copy from Mrs Sandison. ***Please also ensure you have paid the non-refundable deposit (detailed below) via Wisepay.***

The DofE Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's Awards is a voluntary, non-competitive programme of activities for anyone aged between 14-24. Doing their DofE gives young people the opportunity to experience new activities or develop existing skills. There are three progressive levels of programmes which when successfully completed lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold award. The young people create their own DofE programme by choosing a volunteering, physical and skills activity, going on an expedition and, for their Gold only, taking part in a residential activity.

The Sections

The award involves participants completing four sections. Volunteering, Physical, Skill and Expedition. The expedition is explained in the next paragraph. For the physical, skill and volunteering sections the young person needs to organise an activity that falls under the requirements of that section, they will need to do each activity for 1 hour per week. Two of the sections need to be for 3 months (13weeks) and one needs to be for 6 months (26weeks). For each activity, they need to set a goal or target on what they would like to achieve from completing the activity. For example, if a young person chooses football training as their activity under physical, they could have a target of improving their shot. During the 1hr per week they would then work on their shooting technique. Here is a link to some ideas if they are struggling <https://www.dofe.org/do/ideas> **Once your child has been enrolled they will then have to decide on an activity, they must get it approved by their leader or myself, we would hate for them to complete weeks of work for it not to hit the DofE criteria and therefore not count.**

The expedition

The expedition section involves your child working as part of a small team to plan their expedition aims, complete the training to make sure they are fully prepared and complete the 2 day and 1 night expedition itself. The students will need to attend the training to be able to complete the qualifying expedition. The dates of the practice expedition are 2nd & 3rd May 2026. Your child will need to be dropped off and collected. As soon as we have more details, we will be in contact.

The qualifying expeditions will be held on a weekday, the dates are the 21st & 22nd May 2026. This will involve the students completing 2 days and an overnight stay camping. I have organised transport to and from Huxlow. We again will be in contact with more details of the expedition.

A kit list can be found on the DofE website and I have also attached to the email a kit list with all the recommendations by the expedition company. The expedition company will provide the tent, stove, gas, first aid kit, maps and compass.

eDofE and the DofE app

Students can create their DofE programme and record their progress using the eDofE website or App, available to download at the App store or Google play.

If your child does enrol we will hold an eDofE training session for them during lunchtime and there are helpful 'How To' videos on the DofE YouTube channel.

Evidence

It is the young person's responsibility to record evidence that they have been to their planned activity for each section and upload it to their eDofE. This could be a signature from the adult who oversees the activity. When they upload the evidence to eDofE each week, they will then need to write a small comment on what they did during their time and link it to their goal or target.

DofE Club

After February half term I will begin a DofE lunchtime club where participants will join me in preparing for their practice and qualifying expedition. It is important for students to come to this club to ensure they have all the information ready for the expedition.

Parent Information evening

I will hold a parent and participant information session to run through all the information needed for participants to complete the award. This will be held on **Thursday 13th November at 5pm in the hall.** This session will be really helpful for parents and participants to find out what they need to do.

Signing up & Costs

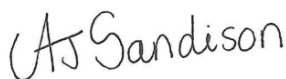
The total cost to take part in the award is £260, this includes your child's participation place, the expedition, transport and team kit hire. We require a £40 non-refundable deposit to be paid by Thursday 13th November, along with enrollment forms. The payment plan is noted below.

Deposit - 13th November	£40
31st December 2025	£55
31st January 2026	£55
28th February 2026	£55
28th March 2026	£55
Total	£260

Please note if your deposit has been paid and enrolment forms submitted the full payment would need to be paid if your child decides to withdraw, as their space will have been booked.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Ashley Sandison
DofE Managers

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