

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is time for this academic year launch of DofE. Your child has recently had an assembly on the Duke of Edinburgh bronze award and you are receiving this letter as a result of your child expressing an interest in Duke of Edinburgh.

The Duke of Edinburgh's award is open to all students, regardless of ability or physical fitness, from Years 9 upwards. Full details are available at www.dofe.org but I would encourage you to speak to myself or Mr Smith for further details or if you are unsure whether or not it is for you.

The Award requires you to complete four sections; focusing on volunteering, developing skills, developing physical fitness and completing an expedition as part of a team. It will usually take you at least 6 months to complete your Bronze programme.

- 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. It's your choice which one and, though you can change your mind later, you should decide which section you want to do for longer at the beginning. Knowing how long you're going to do it for will help you to choose your activity and set your goals for each section. Students find the award highly rewarding and enjoyable as it offers challenge and adventure to those who are ready to commit to something for the entire year. Many students at HCC already do activities which come under the different headings. As long as the section is completed in their own time it will be approved. Below are some ideas of the things HCC offers that can be done for each of the sections.

Skill- Learning a new skill	Physical Activity- Developing/ sustain physical activity	Volunteering- Assisting someone/ others out without being paid
Play a musical instrument	Teen Gym	Paired reading
Food technology/ product design/ textiles	Any sports club- HCC extracurricular (lunchtimes/ after school) or out of school	Leading a lunchtime club
Creative Arts- Photography/ Art/ Drama	Ten Tors training	Sports leadership
Animal care	Cycling	CET/ Learning Leaders/Sixth Form Mentors/ SET/Prefects
IT- Web design/ Mircobits (programming)	This Girl Can	Charity Shop/ memory café
Map reading/ navigation		
Modern foreign language		
Learning to drive- GOLD		

More ideas can be found on the DofE website (<https://www.dofe.org/do/ideas/>)

If you would like to participate, please make a payment of £22 for Bronze which will cover the registrations costs. Please make this payment before **Friday 11th December 2020** via Parent Pay. Once this is received, I will enrol students on the award and your child will receive an eDofE login so they can start completing the sections.

There will be an additional cost for expeditions and this cost is to allow for an external activity provider to run the expeditions. Please see additional attachment with expedition details. Again, this is payable via Parent Pay.

Using an external provider for the expedition section will ensure our students gain a comprehensive experience and have the best possible chance of completing this section successfully. Schools, in general, now opt for external providers and although it increases the overall cost of the DoE Award it is widely acknowledged to be the right option.

Payment deadlines:

Bronze
£55- 7 th January 2021
£55- 7 th February 2021
£55- 7 th March 2021
£55- 7 th April 2021
Full balance paid by 7 th May 2021
£220

In addition, we do have some school kit that you can borrow such as waterproofs and back packs so please do contact me if you would like to borrow any. We also encourage and support our students to engage in fund-raising activities to meet their personal costs. However, if you would like your son/daughter to participate but are worried about the cost, do please contact me as some limited funding may be available, dependent on personal circumstances – we would not want a student to miss out due to financial constraints.

Again, thank you for your interest and please do get in touch should you have any questions.

Yours Sincerely,

Abigail Meyer

Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

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