



Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award

I am delighted to write to you regarding the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, which is available to current Year 9 students. The DofE Award is a well-established and world-renowned extracurricular programme designed to help young people develop new skills, volunteer within their community, improve their fitness levels, and take on opportunities that build character, confidence and resilience.

If you wish for your child to participate in the DofE Award, [please click here to access the Consent Form](#) and complete it by **Friday 27 February 2026**.

The award requires students to complete four sections: **Physical, Volunteering, Skills and Expedition**. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to gain valuable new experiences and develop a skillset that will support them in becoming well-rounded, confident individuals.

Students are expected to find their own activities for the **Volunteering, Physical and Skills** sections. Many students may already be taking part in suitable activities, such as football, learning an instrument, or supporting a Scout/Guide group. Each section must be completed for one hour per week over three months, with one section extended to six months. Progress will be logged through the eDofE app, which students will be able to access after enrolment, and their assessors will upload reports directly. [Further information can be found on the DofE website.](#)

Expedition Section

Students participating in the Bronze Award will need to attend training sessions in the Spring Term to learn essential expedition skills such as map reading, first aid and campcraft. These sessions will take place after school; days and times will be confirmed once your child is enrolled.

Expedition dates will be confirmed later this term. Students must be prepared to hike with all their equipment for the weekend and complete a small group project as part of the expedition.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is inclusive and recognises that not all students can meet the same physical demands. Expeditions can be adapted to individual needs where appropriate, ensuring all students have the opportunity to take part. During the second day of the practice expedition and throughout the final expedition, students will be remotely supervised by staff. They will be issued with a mobile contact number, map, compass and a student-designed



route. Each group will also carry a tracker, allowing staff to monitor progress and ensure safety. Students will regroup at the campsite/destination for a final register before being collected by parents or carers.

Cost of the Award

The total cost to enrol and participate in the Bronze Award is **£90**, which includes enrolment, participation fees, expedition costs and a welcome pack containing a DofE discount card (10% off at Millets, Blacks and Go Outdoors).

Payment will be split into two instalments:

- **£35** (non-refundable) due **Friday 27 February 2026** – covers enrolment and registration
- **£55** due **Monday 23 March 2026** – covers both the practice and final expeditions

Payments will be made via ParentPay. Although the payment option is not currently live, it will be available before half term, and we will notify you by email once it is.

Mrs Gibbs has kindly agreed to fund the full cost of the award for Pupil Premium students and those in receipt of free school meals. If this applies to your child, please simply complete the consent form — no payment is required.

Please note that if your child is unable to attend an expedition due to illness, we cannot guarantee refunds.

Students will need to provide their own personal kit (e.g., backpack, sleeping bag, roll mat, appropriate outdoor clothing, suitable footwear, and food/drink). Tents and cooking equipment will be provided. Limited kit may be available to hire for Pupil Premium students—please discuss this with me if needed. A full kit list will be issued once enrolment is complete.

Please be aware that representing the school on trips, fixtures or events is a privilege. We reserve the right to withdraw this privilege from students who are persistently late, fail to follow uniform or behaviour expectations, or bring the school into disrepute.

For any questions, please email meroffice@maidenerleghtrust.org and mark it for the attention of Mr Dean.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Andrew Dean
DofE Co-ordinator

