



Friday 13 October 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award Programme 2023-24

As part of our extracurricular programme, I am delighted to announce that we are running the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Silver Award for Year 10 pupils only, this academic year.

The Duke of Edinburgh's award is a challenging, but ultimately rewarding experience for all participants. Pupils will learn lifelong skills, helping to make our young people more well-rounded individuals. Duke of Edinburgh certificates are viewed favourably by college and university admissions, as well as prospective employers.

Pupils wishing to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Silver award are required to be registered; of which there is a non-refundable registration fee of £50.00. This fee includes the cost of registering the pupil with the DofE, purchasing their Silver DofE Participant handbook, and associated school license fee. There will be additional costs involved whilst completing the award, all of which are outlined below.

This award is an extra-curricular activity; pupils on the award must be willing to give up a large proportion of their own time to attend training sessions and complete all components listed below. The award will take a minimum of 6 months to complete (12months if they have not completed Bronze award), and will challenge the mental, physical, and social capability of each individual.

The course consists of four blocks of activity, completed for a minimum of one hour per week, over consecutive weeks. All four blocks must be completed successfully and evidenced before the award is accredited. The sections, methods, and approximate costs involved are listed below.

1. Physical (3 or 6months) – 12months if Bronze not achieved

An activity that involves a sport or physically exerting activity. For example, hockey, dance, rock climbing, football, swimming, yoga. This could be an activity students already participate in outside of school, or they can try something new.

2. Skill (3 or 6months) - 12months if Bronze not achieved

The skill component can incorporate a variety of activities. These can include leadership, creative arts, and performing arts, care of animals, cookery, music, life skills, media, science and the natural world.

3. Volunteering (6months)

Pupils have two options available to them regarding this section. Pupils can independently organise to attend a local organisation, club, group, or charity in the community, and offer their services as a volunteer. Pupils may also volunteer to support extra-curricular clubs run within school.

4. Expeditions (Practice & Qualifying)

The expedition process for Silver award is much more intense than at Bronze. Pupils will be required to undertake two expeditions, one practice (two days and two nights) from 2nd – 4th May 2024 and one qualifying (three days and two nights) on 12th – 14th July 2024. The qualifying expeditions are assessed by a qualified DofE Assessor. There will be a cost involved with this section of £250.00pp. There will be some additional training that is necessary for the expedition section and exact dates will

be confirmed in due course for all of these. Additional equipment, clothing, walking boots, and food costs should be taken into account.

For those pupils who attract Pupil Premium, there is potentially some limited funding on a discretionary, individual needs basis. Please contact me (Mr Barrett) in the first instance should you so wish. Please be aware that any equipment supplied on this discretionary basis would remain the property of North Leamington School for future students to access.

If you would like your child to participate in The Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award, your child is asked to complete their letter of application (attached); please also complete slip below and the registration form (attached), and return to the PE office no later than Monday November 6th 2023 with the £50 registration fee also paid by that time via ParentPay (www.parentpay.com). Whilst we have not stipulated a student capacity for participation, in the event the award is heavily oversubscribed, names will be considered by the following criteria and the registration fee will be refunded if unsuccessful.

- Quality of letter of application
- Contribution to school life (student leadership, behaviour, attendance, extra-curricular)
- All things being equal, pupils to be selected at random by names being pulled out of a hat

Once the participants have been confirmed, we will set up the remaining costs on ParentPay and will notify you when these payments are due. The total cost will be £250: £50 registration fee by November 6th; £100 by February 15th and £100 by April 15th 2024. Students cannot be registered and begin logging their award without prior payment of the registration fee, but if they are keen, they can begin the volunteering, physical and skills' sections of their award immediately and can back date their efforts once registered and online.

Yours faithfully,



Mr James Barrett
DofE Coordinator

Reply Slip: Please return the reply slip to Mr Barrett, no later than Monday 6th November 2023

RE: Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award – interest in participation

My Child (name) _____ Date of Birth _____

Would like to participate in this year's Duke of Edinburgh Silver award for Year 10 and be considered for a place. I understand that a selection process will be implemented should places be oversubscribed.

I consent to pay the associated costs involved with the Duke of Edinburgh award; including the £50.00 registration fee, and expedition costs of up to £200.00 for the expedition element.

(Parent/Carer) _____ Date _____ Student _____

Letter of application

To be considered for a place on the Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award, students should answer the question below as fully as possible.

'What experiences do you have which would make you an ideal candidate to undertake DofE Silver Award?'

Name _____ Tutor Group _____