



Bishop Wordsworth's School

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22 May 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

As you are probably aware, for a significant number of years we have been able to offer the boys the opportunity to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award as an extra-curricular activity, run by H5 Adventure and supported by volunteer staff and parents. Before the end of this academic year we were considering enrolling the current Year 9's onto the Bronze award, to give them the opportunity of completing Bronze, Silver and Gold whilst at Bishop's.

Mr Paul Webb of H5 Adventure has been our DofE supplier for a number of years, providing excellent training and overseeing the expedition section; we have learnt a great deal working with them and have made some changes to make the Bronze award more robust for your son. I will be supporting the Bronze participants as their Bronze DofE Leader with Mrs Nute continuing to provide admin support.

- Enrolment forms will be available from Reception from Wednesday 23 May and once we receive the £20.00 enrolment fee we will process the form. Finance will add this via scopay. The fee covers edofe enrolment and the DofE pack. Completed forms to be returned to Reception and the closing date for enrolment is **Wednesday 6 June**.
- Shortly after enrolment your son will be given his edofe sign-in details and a booklet. The edofe is an online record system used to start and complete the award. The booklet can be used to write dates, details of their sections and take to assessors for completion. Assessors can also send their reports directly to your son's edofe account.

Below is a general outline of what the award entails, but of course the Duke of Edinburgh website will give a broader overview and examples from the DofE school web page. We expect the boys to start all sections of the award before taking part in the training day. This will ensure, we feel, that they will complete their Bronze award.

There are four sections to the Bronze award, with some examples for each, as follows (a family member is not able to assess):

1. Volunteering: for a **non-profit** making organisation or undertaking service to individuals or the community, eg scout leader, volunteer sports assistant, working in a charity shop, helping primary school pupils with maths etc.

2. Physical: improving in an area of sport, dance or fitness activities or starting a new activity.
3. Skills: developing practical and social skills and personal interests, eg writing a book, gaining the next grade with a musical instrument, improvement in an extra-curricular language eg Mandarin, (but ask the teacher first), life-saving skills. Home cooking (neighbour/family friend to assess).

These sections will need to be completed for an hour each week for three months and one of the sections will need to be completed over six months. Finally:

4. Expedition Section run by H5 Adventure. As part of the training day your son will learn about cooking on Trangias, map reading, navigation, planning routes and putting up and taking down tents, personal safety, first aid and what to do in an emergency. There will also be an overnight practice expedition to train for the completion of the overnight qualifying expedition.

Provided your son has made a start on the above sections the expedition dates are as follows:-

Training Session: Sunday 9 September 2018

Practice Expedition: Saturday 29-Sunday 30 September 2018

Assessed Expedition: Saturday 27-Sunday 28 October 2018

Can we also ask that any parent/guardian with relevant expedition qualifications and willing to volunteer for a couple of weekends, make contact with Mrs Nute amn@bws.wilts.sch.uk

A recommended kit list can be found on the DofE page on the school web site.

Please pay the enrolment of £20.00 on-line via www.scopay.com. If your son doesn't have a scopay account and you need a link code please email amh@bws.wilts.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mr J M Oldham
DofE Bronze Leader