

The Sir John Colfox Academy



Inspiring Learning, Achieving Excellence

Headteacher: Mr David Herbert BSc PGCE NPQH



THE DUKE OF
EDINBURGH'S AWARD

www.DofE.org

September 2018

Dear Parent

Year 10 is the year that students can complete their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award if they so wish. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop lifelong skills and this letter outlines the key information needed to commit to signing up to the award.

To complete the award students need to undertake the following;

Volunteering - helping someone, your community or the environment

Physical - becoming fitter through sport, dance or fitness activities

Skills - developing existing talents or trying something new

Expedition - planning, training for and completing an adventurous journey

After obtaining a place on the award, students will be given a login to the eDofE website to start logging their hours in all of the sections. It is the participant's responsibility to make arrangements for the sections and complete the hours. Our aim is for your child to complete all of their sections and their practice and qualifying expeditions in this academic year. Further details of these expeditions will follow in subsequent letters. All staff leading expeditions are fully qualified and have first aid qualifications.

To start the award students need to subscribe to the scheme through the school. The subscription includes;

1. **An eDofE account** - This is your access to our fabulous online system where you can set up your DofE programme, get your choices agreed by your Leader and record evidence of your activities in a variety of exciting formats (blogs, photos, videos).
2. **Limited personal accident insurance** - please see the following website for further details (www.DofE.org/go/insurance)
3. **A certificate and badge** – when you complete the award.

The subscription cost is £35. On top of this cost there are also costs for: First Aid course, equipment, campsite fees, fuel etc. This amounts to: £71. So the total for DofE is: £106. Below you will find a breakdown of the other costs. The deposit is £56 to cover their official subscription fees and the first aid course.

- £21 First Aid course
- £15 campsite fees
- £5 fuel for Trangias
- £15 associated expenditure e.g. insurance costs
- £15 equipment wear and tear

Any parent who requires financial assistance to enable their child to take part in this trip should contact me or the school office where an application form will be forwarded for you to complete.

As well as undertaking the four DofE sections, your son/ daughter will be required to commit to DofE sessions on Thursday after schools 3.40- 4.30/5pm from January onwards. Students will be informed of all the sessions through the student bulletin.

The first significant date for the Award this year will be on **Thursday 11 October when students will be set up on their eDofE accounts.**

The second important date will be on **Monday 7 January when students will complete their First Aid Training course.** This is when students will have to attend their mandatory First Aid Training in the Sports Hall from **9.30am-12.30pm.** This session is provided by an external First Aid Organisation, but Mr Bartlett, Miss Barraclough or Mrs Ward will be on hand to supervise.

Please be aware that the dates for next year's practice expedition and qualifying expedition are **Saturday 11 May – Sunday 12 May, the practice will take place around Abbotsbury, Dorchester and Weymouth** and **Saturday 22 June - Sunday 23 June, the assessed expedition will start in Swanage and finish at Lulworth Cove.** Students will be away from approximately 8.30am Saturday until 2pm Sunday. It is vital students take part in both expedition weekends to complete their bronze award.

If your child is unable to fulfil any of the dates above, they will be unable to complete their Bronze DofE at Colfox. However, your child could still complete their DofE through a Dorset Independent Group and I will be happy to pass on details of these centres

Please be aware we have **42** places. If you wish your son/daughter to take part, then they must return the attached slip expressing interest to student reception by Friday 21 September. If we go over **42** we will consider whether we have the staffing to accommodate more students or consider applying a criteria looking at students attendance, behaviour and homework.

We will then send a second letter confirming your child's place and payments.

If you require any further details of the award then please do not hesitate to contact us at school. Our email addresses are bartlettn@colfox.dorset.sch.uk, barracoughc@colfox.dorset.sch.uk and ward@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

Yours sincerely



Mr Bartlett Miss Barraclough Mrs Ward

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PLEASE RETURN TO STUDENT RECEPTION BY THE END OF TUTOR TIME FRIDAY 21
SEPTEMBER

To: Mr Bartlett - YEAR 10 – Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Student Name _____ Tutor group _____

I would like to register interest for my son / daughter to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. I understand I will receive a further letter confirming if they have a place.



The Sir John Colfox Academy Trust part of the Minerva Learning Trust (Dorset) which is a charitable company
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