

# The Sir John Colfox Academy



## **Inspiring Learning, Achieving Excellence**

Headteacher: Mr Adam Shelley MEd, BSc Hons, PGCE, NPQH

10 March 2020

Dear Parents

I am writing to you to let you know that there is an opportunity for your child to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. 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.

The Duke of Edinburgh is an award which allows students to undertake and demonstrate a range of skills across 4 sections: volunteering, physical, skills and expedition. The award is one of the most recognised awards by employers and is a valuable asset to any CV.

After obtaining a place on the award, students will be given a login to the DofE 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. Further details the expeditions and kit needed will follow in subsequent letters.

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

1. DofE account - This is your access to the online system where you can set up your DofE programme, get your choices agreed by your Leader and record evidence of your activities).
2. Limited personal accident insurance - please see the following website for further details ([www.DofE.org/go/insurance](http://www.DofE.org/go/insurance))
3. A certificate and badge – when you complete the award.

The subscription cost is £36. On top of this cost there are also costs for: equipment, campsite fees, fuel etc. This amounts to: £49. So the total for DofE will be: £85. Below you will find a breakdown of the other costs. The deposit required will be: £36 to cover their DofE subscription fee.

Other associated costs include:

- £19 campsite fees
- £5 fuel for Trangias
- £15 associated expenditure e.g. insurance costs, cost of assessor, staffing
- £15 equipment upkeep

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; some may also take place on Thursday lunch times. Students will be informed of all the sessions through the student bulletin.

Please be aware that if your child signs up to DofE their practice expedition will be happening over the last 2 days of the summer term (16th and 17th July, including overnight camp on the 16th) – the ‘activity’ and ‘House’ days . Therefore, if they have already signed up for an activity they will NOT be taking part in the activity and will be completing their DofE practice expedition.

For their practice expedition, they begin their walk at Maiden Castle, Dorchester on the Thursday 16th and finish their walk at Abbotsbury on the Friday 17th. We envision there being enough parents to share the dropping and picking their children up from these destinations. However, if this is a problem, we will sort transport but it will be at an added cost.

Their assessed weekend will be occurring over a weekend at the end of September/ beginning of October.

Please be aware we only have 28 places on this course. If you wish your son/daughter to take part, then they must return the attached slip expressing interest to student reception by Tuesday 17th March. If more than 28 students apply we will put all names in a hat and pull out 28 names to ensure fair chance for all. If your child is successful in gaining a place, a further letter will be sent to you with more details and requesting you pay the deposit before the end of the Spring term.

Should you require any further details of the award then please do not hesitate to contact me at school. My email addresses is wardr@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

Yours sincerely



Mrs Ward  
Teacher of English



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PLEASE RETURN TO STUDENT RECEPTION BY The end of tutor time Tuesday 17 March 2020  
To: Student Reception Re: Year 10 Duke of Edinburg Bronze Award – Mrs Ward

I would like to register interest for my son / daughter to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award.

Student's Name: ..... Tutor Group .....

Signed Parent/Guardian ..... Name (Please print) .....

Date .....





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