



Our ref: SJW-RAA-BAF/aln/office/trips/Y9LaunchDofEBronze

22nd September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

## Re: Y9 Launch of Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award Scheme 2023-24



As a school, we recognise the value of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and the opportunities it provides for the personal development of our students. The DofE is the nationally and internationally recognised award favoured by employers and universities alike. Over time, those students who participant in the Award Scheme build confidence, dedication and commitment, attributes we all want to see in our young people in school, life and in the workplace.

We are therefore, providing students in Year 9 with the opportunity to complete the Bronze Award.

Students participating are expected to complete the following four sections:

**Volunteering\*** (minimum 3 months)

*Supporting individuals or giving back to the community.*

**Physical\*** (minimum 3 months)

*Improving in an area of sport, dance or fitness.*

**Skills\*** (minimum 3 months)

*Developing practical and social skills and personal interests.*

**Expedition** (2 days, 1 night)

*Planning, training for and completing an adventurous journey.*

\* One of these sections needs to have been completed over a six month period.

Students will be expected to have completed at least two of the award sections (for 3 months) prior to participating in the practice expedition.

It is expected that students will be participating regularly in the activities and are committed to their DofE Award. Each activity takes one hour a week over a set period of time and it should be easy for students to fit this in around their studies and social life. A significant number of students are already involved in volunteering, sport and other extra-curricular activities inside or outside school, which can count towards the award.



A company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales with number 07697400

Registered office: Hawksbrook Lane, South Eden Park Road, Beckenham. BR3 3BE



We will be running an Information Evening for interested students, parents and carers on **Tuesday 3rd October at 6.15pm in the Main Hall**, at which we will be providing further information about the Award.

In common with many other schools, locally and nationally, we will be using an Approved Activity Provider (AAP) with the skills and expertise to provide expedition training and manage the practice and assessed expeditions on our behalf. Our appointed provider is Ben Bullen Adventures <https://www.benbullenadventures.co.uk>

#### Costs and Enrolment:

This is an optional activity and therefore not essential for students to participate to fulfil any course requirements. We are therefore asking for a voluntary contribution of £250. If insufficient voluntary contributions are received the activity may not take place.

This cost covers the following:

- Award registration (participation fee) with DofE London
- Expedition training and two expeditions

Additional costs (to be met by participants):

- Personal clothing/equipment<sup>1</sup>
- Food for expeditions

<sup>1</sup> Please note group equipment (tents, stoves and rucksacks) are provided.

We hope to be able to accommodate all those students interested in participating in the programme, specifically as a result of our appointment of an AAP in managing the expeditions. We may, however, have to manage the number of applications in the event of significant interest, beyond what we can reasonably and safely manage.

In the event that the number of applicants exceeds the number of places available, places will be allocated through a ballot. In the event we are unable to allocate your child a place, we will refund any contribution made in full.

In-order to enrol your child onto the award programme, we request that the following is completed by **Monday 16th October:**

1. The online enrolment form is completed.  
A link to this form, can be found here: [Bronze Enrolment Form](#)
2. A non-refundable deposit of £100 is paid via Parentpay in advance of or following the information evening.

A further two instalments will be due as follows:

Payment 2: £75 due by Friday 22nd March 2024

Payment 3: £75 due by Friday 24th May 2024

#### Key dates:

Expedition training in school (1 day): Wednesday 3rd January 2024 (in-school, PD Day)

Practice Expedition (2 days, 1 night): Friday 14th June – Saturday 15th June 2024

Assessed Expedition (2 days, 1 night): Friday 21st June – Saturday 22nd June 2024

**For students to be able to complete their award, it is a requirement that they are available for all of the above dates.**

#### Further information:

Further information for parents/carers about the award, including the personal kit list, can be accessed via the school website <https://www.hayes.bromley.sch.uk/students/dofeathayes>



A company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales with number 07697400  
Registered office: Hawksbrook Lane, South Eden Park Road, Beckenham. BR3 3BE



If you have any questions about the Award, we will be happy to respond to these at the Information Evening or via e-mail.

We will be supporting students in completing the DofE Award this academic year and look forward to working with participants throughout the year.

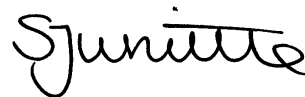
Yours faithfully



Ms R Andrews  
DofE Bronze Award Manager  
[RAA@hayes.bromley.sch.uk](mailto:RAA@hayes.bromley.sch.uk)



Mr B Frost  
DofE Co-Ordinator  
[BAF@hayes.bromley.sch.uk](mailto:BAF@hayes.bromley.sch.uk)



Mr S Whittle  
Principal



A company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales with number 07697400  
Registered office: Hawksbrook Lane, South Eden Park Road, Beckenham. BR3 3BE

