



29th June 2018

Dear Participant, Parents and Carers,

**Re: The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme at Etonbury Academy**

Your child has expressed an interest in the DofE. I will now be taking applications from students currently in Year 9 onto the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme [www.dofe.org](http://www.dofe.org), for the 2018-2019 Academic year. This letter outlines details of the award, the commitment required and the application process.

In order to complete the award at Silver level each pupil has to complete four sections:

- a **physical** section
- a **volunteering** section
- a **skills** section

*Participants must do the volunteering section for 6 months. They must also do the skills or physical section for 6 months and the other section for 3 months.*

- the **expedition** section; a planned journey and overnight camp lasting three days and two nights. Participants must carry out a **practice expedition** and finally an **unaccompanied assessment expedition** that will take place in September/October 2019.

Only participants that have completed the skills, volunteering and physical sections will be able to go forward to the practice and final expedition. As well as a personal and time commitment there is a financial one. The fee for joining the Duke of Edinburgh Silver programme is £160; this includes costs for the two expeditions, registration fees, training and group equipment. It is essential that participants are fully committed to the scheme before paying as once enrolled money cannot be refunded.

Please do not be dissuaded by costs as we will try and find ways to help any student who wishes to participate! If the participant is entitled to Pupil Premium funding the school can also help – please contact me for further information.

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Principal: Mr A Prior



### **Application**

Applications can take any form; a hand/computer written letter/email of application, a poem or a more formal letter of application. **Tell me why you feel you want to do the Silver award. How could your bronze award help you achieve your silver?**

Along with the letter of application, applicants must fill in the 'Bitesize Planner' – although these choices for sections are not final it shows you have thought about what you want to do and have researched it properly. The deadline for applications is **Friday 12th July.**

Once the application process has been completed, and if you are successful, a second 'welcome letter' will be sent home to participants. This letter will contain in more detail how the scheme works.

Applications given in after the deadline will **not** be accepted.

If you need any more information or have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Kate Thomas  
DofE leader  
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