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**Headteacher:** Dr. A Wood, PhD, NPQH, BSc (Hons)



**Ref: Duke of Edinburgh Award – Y9**

Wednesday 15th April 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted to inform you about a fantastic opportunity available for your child: the chance to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award.

The award consists of four elements that your child will need to complete to achieve the award: volunteering, physical activity, skill development, and an expedition. The segments of the course are as follows:

- **Volunteering:** Helping people in the community.
- **Skills:** Pursuing a hobby, skill, or interest.
- **Physical Recreation:** Engaging in sports, dance, or fitness activities.
- **Expedition:** Training for, planning, and completing a journey on foot.

Students can complete the volunteering, skills, and physical sections at their own pace, while the expedition is a group activity that serves as the focal point of the course. During the expedition, students will develop vital survival and life skills, including:

- Planning their own route and navigating through checkpoints using a map and compass.
- Setting up camp and erecting their tents.
- Packing and preparing the food and equipment needed for the weekend.

These two challenging weekends will not only teach students to work effectively as part of a team but also ensure an enjoyable experience for all.

The expedition will take place between the following dates:

- **Practice Expedition:** Saturday 13th – Sunday 14th June 2026
- **Main Expedition:** Saturday 11th – Sunday 12th July 2026

If restrictions arise that make it difficult for the expeditions to take place, we will do our best to arrange alternative dates. However, please note that we cannot refund any costs incurred.

To prepare for the expedition, students will attend weekly training sessions where they'll learn the necessary skills. These sessions will take place every **Thursday** after school, from **3:20 pm to 4:20 pm**. Students will need to arrange their own transport home.

The cost of the award is **£150**, which covers enrolment and the hire of all necessary equipment for the expeditions (e.g., tents and Trangias). It is advised that your child purchases a pair of hiking boots, sleeping bag, rucksack and waterproof clothing.

A selection of rucksacks and waterproofs are available for hire if required.

If your child would like to participate, please sign up via ParentPay by completing payment by **Monday 27th April**. The first training session will take place on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April.

I hope your child takes advantage of this wonderful opportunity, and I look forward to seeing them take part in the award.

Kind regards

Mr M Cox