



Ref: DRN/ARE

September 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

Re: Duke of Edinburgh Award (Bronze)

As a parent / carer of a year 9 student I invite you to attend a **parents' information event on Thursday 28th September 2023 at 7:00pm** to provide you with information regarding the DofE Bronze Award programme at Saddleworth School.

The DofE is the world's leading youth achievement award, giving millions of 14- to 24-year-olds the opportunity to be the very best they can be.

The DofE gives young people the chance to do something completely new and improve on things you're already doing. It takes them out of their comfort zone and into a place where they will push themselves and have amazing new experiences. They will build confidence, resilience, skills for work and friendship groups. And they'll have a brilliant time doing it.

Colleges, universities and employers regard a DofE Award highly so it will also help to open the right doors for them. If they are keen to put 100% into something that could change their life, the DofE is for them.

The **Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award** is a fun, life-changing experience and an opportunity to discover new interests and talents. DofE Bronze is for young people aged 14+ years. If your child is not 14 yet but are in the school year in which your peer group turn 14, you can start a Bronze DofE programme.

There are four sections to complete at bronze level. They involve helping the community/environment, becoming fitter, developing new skills, planning, training for and completing an expedition.

As a school we work with a company called **Karos Adventure Ltd** to provide **the expedition** of the award and I have included a link to their website for your information <http://www.karosadventure.com>. They are a Duke of Edinburgh accredited provider. All their leaders are fully qualified with their MLE certificate or above, hold the full 16-hour First Aid qualification and have an enhanced DBS certificate.

Recruitment for this award is based on two phases: The registration phase and the expedition sign-up phase.

The initial cost of the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award is for the registration phase and is **£83 per pupil** (non-refundable) which includes the DofE Registration fee of £25.50, an administration fee of £17.50 and a Karos Adventure Ltd deposit of £40. **Enrolment forms must be returned to school by Friday 6th October 2023. We WILL NOT accept applications after this date.**

A copy of the Code of Conduct must be signed and returned with the enrolment form. Failure of a participant to comply with any of the points in the Code of Conduct will result in removal from the expedition. No refund will be available for participants removed due to breaches of the Code of Conduct.

Participants will be registered with DofE once payment has been made. Participants will then have **5 weeks** from this date to arrange and log what activities they are doing for their volunteering, physical and skills sections on their edofe.org account. This will allow students to demonstrate their commitment to the award.

Only those participants who have demonstrated their commitment to completing the award by logging and starting at least two of the sections will be allowed to continue to our expedition. **The cost of the expedition with Karos Adventure Ltd this year is £155.** This covers two days residential training (including one overnight camp) and an assessed qualifying expedition. Payments will be made via our online payment system **ParentPay**.

Key payment dates

- Registration payment **£83.00** by Friday 13th October 2023 (non-refundable)
- Expedition payment **£115.00** (£155 - £40.00 deposit) by Friday 25th November 2023

For your child to complete this award will require a big commitment from them and you. **You are a key enabler for their award so please attend the parents' information event on Thursday 28th September 2023** so that you fully understand your roll in the process. We may not allow enrolment of a student if a parent does not attend. A register will be taken on entry.

We have mapped the provision of the award with our provider and have identified the dates for the expedition training and qualifying. Participants will be split into **two cohorts A and B**. Within each cohort **your child will do their expedition in a group of seven participants**. We will also be organising training sessions within school to ensure that pupil's feel informed and prepared for these events. We will be running support sessions on how to complete the edofe.org aspect online.

Important dates for your diary

Parents' information event	Thursday 28th September 2023 in the school main hall
Training & Planning	After school sessions
Cohort A Residential Training	Saturday 27 th to Sunday 28 th April 2024 (one overnight stay)
Cohort A Qualifying Expedition	Saturday 8 th to Sunday 9 th June 2024 (one overnight stay)
Cohort B Residential Training	Saturday 18 th to Sunday 19 th May 2024 (one overnight stay)
Cohort B Qualifying Expedition	Saturday 13 th to Sunday 14 th July 2024 (one overnight stay)

If your child cannot attend either of these sets of dates due to other commitments, then please do not sign up for the programme. We have no other expeditions taking place outside of these dates.

If you have any further questions or would like any additional information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Duke of Edinburgh Award Manager Saddleworth School

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