



Dear Parents

Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Your child has shown an interest in the Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award. Please see the attached information sheet and the website at www.dofe.org for further details about the four sections of the Silver Award. Those who do participate find it an enjoyable, challenging and rewarding experience.

The expedition section of the Silver Award consists of two expeditions. Pupils joining the Award Scheme will need to be able to attend both of these expeditions. Expedition Training takes place on two days which pupils will also have to attend. Training will include navigation and map work including planning their route and timings, risk assessments and dangers, emergency procedures, first aid, how to pack a ruck sack and what to take, nutrition, menus and how to use a stove as well as the 20 conditions of DofE.

- Training Day 1 – **Monday 14th February (half term)**
- Training day 2 - **Tuesday 15th February (half term)**
- Practice expedition
From 9am, Monday 16th April – 6:30pm, Wednesday 18th April (2 days, 2 nights - Easter holidays)
- Qualifying expedition
From 4pm, Tuesday 26th June – 7:30pm, Friday 29th June (3 days, 3 nights – after final GCSE exams)

The training, practice and qualifying expedition is being provided by Kingsbury Water Park Outdoor Education Service. Kingsbury Water Park OEC is part of Warwickshire County Council's Outdoor Education Service and hold an Adventurous Activities Licensing Authority licence. All activities follow comprehensive policy and operating procedures, codes of good practice and are fully risk assessed.

To cover the cost of the Award Scheme registration and the provision of the external expedition training and assessment, the use of tents and cooking equipment, campsite fees and transport, it will be necessary to make a charge. This year there have been substantial changes to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award within Warwickshire and the school is now subject to an annual subscription charge. The Welcome Packs have also increased from £16 to £29. The charge will vary depending on the number of participants but if 7 pupils sign up the charge will be £415 per pupil.

Please be aware that there may well be some additional, individual expenses incurred as some expedition kit may need to be purchased, such as hiking boots. A kit list will be issued in plenty of time prior to the expeditions.

If your son or daughter would like to register to join The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme at Silver level, please complete and return the attached slip and the registration form by **Wednesday 30th November**. Should you have any questions regarding the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, please do contact me.

Yours sincerely
Mrs H Bristow

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award

I/ We agree to my child.....(child's name & form) participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Silver award and for £415 to be added to the school account.

We understand that if my child does not attend all of the the expedition training or the expeditions that they will not be able to qualify for their Award but will still be charged.

Signed.....