



Headteacher  
Debbie Smith B.Ed, NPQH

# Sandhurst School

## the opportunity to succeed

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1<sup>st</sup> November 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Re: Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Your son/daughter has the opportunity to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. The school operates the scheme for students in Year 9, with the aim of completing the award at Bronze Level by the end of the academic year. If successful, there will also be the opportunity for students to continue the award to Silver Level in Year 10.

#### Background

The aim of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (D of E) is to provide young people with an enjoyable, challenging and rewarding programme of personal development, which is of the highest quality and widest reach. Young people doing their D of E programme complete four different types of activity, the first three must be carried out in their spare time and not during school hours. The fourth aspect will be delivered directly by a specialist approved activity provider.

The four sections are:

Volunteering: undertake service to individuals or the community. This develops compassion, commitment and the confidence to make a difference.

Physical: improve in an area of sport, dance or fitness. This develops fitness, enjoyment and, depending on the activity, teamwork.

Skills: develop social skills and personal interests. This helps young people to realise their unique potential and gain greater self-esteem.

Expedition: plan, train for, and complete an adventurous journey in the UK. This develops teamwork and leadership, and challenges young people to push themselves beyond their perceived limits.

The award is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop their independence, teamwork and leadership abilities. These skills are highly regarded by education institutions and employers. In order to successfully meet the challenge of the award, the scheme requires persistence, personal resilience and commitment.

It will be the responsibility of the participant to find and arrange the activities that they will undertake for their volunteering, physical and skills sections. The school can offer advice, but cannot find or organise the activities on behalf of the students. Participants should also ideally choose something new to them; there is an extensive list of possible activities listed on the D of E website [www.dofe.org](http://www.dofe.org).

The participants will undertake two expeditions, a practice expedition and a qualifying expedition. The second expedition will be assessed by a Duke of Edinburgh accredited expedition assessor. There will also be an additional training weekend run by the approved activity provider on a weekend date to be announced.

The DofE scheme has grown successfully over the last six years at Sandhurst School. In order to ensure that every student has the opportunity to take part, we are now in partnership with an activity provider.

Cont./...



Would you prefer to receive your letters by Email? If so, please notify the school and provide us with your Email address

There are costs associated with taking part in the D of E, which sadly cannot be covered by the school. This will include training and kit provided by the approved activity provider, students will have to provide walking boots, outdoor clothing and miscellaneous equipment. The operational cost of running the D of E will be an approximate cost of £215 per student.

We will be holding an information afternoon for students interested in taking part, on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 3:05pm** in the school hall.

Once this has taken place and if you would like your son/daughter to participate in the Bronze Level of the Duke of Edinburgh Award, please complete the form below.

Yours sincerely,



**Mrs B Sharpe**  
**Duke of Edinburgh Manager**

**Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award Scheme - Please return to Reception by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2018.**

Student Name: .....

Tutor Group: .....

I would like my son/daughter to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Scheme.

Signed: ..... Parent/Carer



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