



THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL

A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE

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09 October 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Yr10 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award, 2020-2021

After a very different year of running the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are very happy with the way students have continued with their Bronze Award and overcoming a variety of challenges to complete sections. Even with the Expedition outstanding, we would like to continue to offer Year 10 students the opportunity to take part in The Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award Scheme.

Due to the current situation, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme are allowing students to start their Silver Award if they have completed their Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections at Bronze level. The Silver Award does need dedication and independence to complete.

The Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award has four sections: Volunteering, Physical, Skills and Expedition. Depending on if your child has completed the Bronze Award in Year 9, the timings that they need to spend on each section is different to those students who are starting the Award at Silver level.

They need to complete two sections at 6 months (one must be Volunteering) and one at 3 months - see example below:

Volunteering section: for 6 months

Physical and Skills sections: 1 section for 6 months and the other section for 3 months

Please note they can choose the same activity for Silver as they did for Bronze, but they need to show development in it. It's best to try something new!

This year, the Expedition element of the Award is slightly different as students will need to complete both their Bronze and Silver Expeditions. They will use their Silver Practice Expedition as their Bronze qualifying (2 days walking) and then a Silver Qualifying Expedition (3 days walking). Their Expedition groups will need to be with other students doing the Silver Award.

At present, the impact of the current restrictions in place means that the camping element of the Expedition has been removed. Students will need to arrange daily transport to and from the Expedition site. If restrictions are loosened enough to allow, then the camping element will be added back in. There is an additional cost for the Expedition which includes insurance, assessor's fees, transport, staffing, Expedition training day cost, camping (if allowed). This cost will be approximately £60, without the camping element, however, this would rise to approximately £180, if we are allowed to re-introduce camping.

The Buckingham School is concerned that every student should have the opportunity to attend school activities/obtain equipment, regardless of their financial circumstances. As such, it may be possible to subsidise those students who would otherwise be unable to attend trips/purchase items. Please feel free to write in confidence to Mrs K Bones at kbones@buckinghamschool.org, if you wish to seek assistance, or obtain more information about Pupil Premium funding.



Cost

If your child would like to undertake the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award, there is a non-refundable fee of £45, to cover the initial Introduction Pack and enrolment costs. Payment can be made through ParentMail, before Monday, 9th November 2020. Should you have any issues accessing this site, please contact Mrs Newall on gnewall@buckingham-school.org.

Students who want to proceed with the Silver Award must ensure that the 3 sections for their Bronze Award are completed by 9th November. They will also need to join the Silver DofE Google Classroom, using code: aijl62d

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Miss V Cowley
Assistant Curriculum Leader for PE
Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator
vcowley@buckingham-school.org

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