



September 2023

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Headteacher - Patrick Earnshaw  
Deputy Headteacher - Mathew Downs

I would like to offer you the opportunity to learn more about the **Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme**.

On **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023**. I will be hosting a virtual Year 10 Silver DofE information evening on Microsoft Teams from 5:00pm-6.00pm. The purpose of the evening is to explain about the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, how it works and what is involved. Students and parents can join at any time throughout the evening to ask any questions you might have about Year 10 DofE Silver. This can be accessed via Microsoft Teams by following the link that will be emailed to all Year 10 students and is given below.

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_NmQxNTFjMGItYjk0NC00ZjMyLTJmYTYzMGZhODZk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%220a7bdf1c-7f95-4445-a094-7553acdd0e0%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2269278a15-6f9e-4469-aea2-29c16ad07766%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NmQxNTFjMGItYjk0NC00ZjMyLTJmYTYzMGZhODZk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%220a7bdf1c-7f95-4445-a094-7553acdd0e0%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2269278a15-6f9e-4469-aea2-29c16ad07766%22%7d)

### Activity sections

For Year 10 Silver DofE, students have three sections to complete: physical, skill and volunteering. Students who have completed their Bronze DofE Award need to complete two sections for 6 months, and one section for 3 months. Students who have not completed or started their Bronze DofE Award need to do one section for 12 months, one for 6 months and one for 3 months.

The activity logging system where students upload evidence is via the eDofE App which will be monitored in school. Students will need to check and use email regularly to keep in contact with staff and raise any issues. Year 10 Silver students ideally should have completed at least two parts of the physical, skill and volunteering sections of their Award, over a six-month period before going on expedition to show their commitment to DofE.

### Training meetings

Training reminders will be given for navigation, countryside code, camp craft, food hygiene and stove use, route planning and route cards, preparing for the weather and kit guidance using the recorded meetings from last year. Students are expected to refresh themselves before the practise expedition when Hampshire Outdoor will assist in re-training and refreshing these skills.

### Expedition

The Year 10 Silver practice expedition is planned to take place **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024 in the New Forest** and will be run and organised by **Hampshire Outdoor AAP**. This is a DofE Alternative Activity Provider run and staffed by professional DofE qualified staff, accompanied by Highcliffe School staff. The assessed expedition is planned for **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June - Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2024 in the Purbecks** and will be run and organised by Highcliffe School. Dates are provisional but hopefully will not change.

### Enrolment & Costs

#### Year 10 Silver Enrolment

**£70**

This will enrol your child onto the DofE Award Scheme at Highcliffe School and will include, online guidance (eDofE) for completion of the physical, volunteering and skills part of the Award.

**2day 2 night practice and 3 day 2 night qualifying expeditions****£150**

This will include expedition kit such as tent, stove, maps, compass but not personal kit such as clothes, sleeping bag, rucksack, food, water, etc.

Exact details, timings, logistics and information will be released by Hampshire Outdoors AAP nearer the time.

**Payment**

Payment can be made on WisePay and will close on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023**. Please ensure that you select the correct trip for your child's year group as there are a number of DofE expeditions.

DofE is open to all Year 10 students and payment can be a **one-off payment of £220 or three payments totalling £220**.

**Payment Option 1**

A one-off payment £220 due by 3/11/23

**Payment Option 2**

First payment (**Non-refundable**) £70 due by 3/11/23

Second payment £75 due by 2/2/24

Third payment £75 due by 5/4/24.

**Students will be enrolled as soon as the first payment is received, and therefore the first £70 is non-refundable.**

Students who do not complete two of their sections and are not eligible for the expedition will have their £150 assessed expedition costs refunded if necessary.

We do have some hardship funding available from DofE, as well as pupil premium in school, so if there are any questions or concerns please contact Mr Evans or Mrs Faulkner-Smith in this regard.

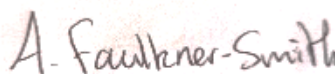
Please be aware that the Headteacher will consider attendance and behaviour before the trip commences. If they are not acceptable prior to the trip parents will be consulted and where time allows, be involved in achieving a positive resolution. Where participation is disallowed this may result in the partial or full loss of trip costs.

If you have any other queries regarding the DofE Award Scheme please contact Mr Evans or Mrs Faulkner-Smith on [DofE@highcliffeschool.com](mailto:DofE@highcliffeschool.com)

Yours sincerely,



Mr P Evans  
Duke of Edinburgh Organisers



Mrs A Faulkner-Smith