

26 September 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme – Bronze Award 2024-25

As part of the extra-curricular opportunities by Knole Academy, we are delighted to start the process of recruitment for this academic year's Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards. We are recruiting Bronze recruits from Year 9.

The award focuses on young people participating in four sections, which they must complete outside of school time; a skill section, a physical section, a volunteering section and an expedition section. Activities for each DofE section take a minimum of one hour each per week over a set period of time, so they can be fitted in around academic study, hobbies and social lives. It will usually take you at least 6 months to complete your Bronze programme:

- Volunteering section: 3 months
- Physical section: 3 months
- Skills section: 3 months
- Expedition section: two trips of 2 days/1 night

You also have to spend an extra three months on **one** of the Volunteering, Physical or Skills sections. It's your choice which one and, though you can change your mind later, you should decide which section you want to do for longer at the beginning. Knowing how long you're going to do it for will help you to your activity and set your goals for each section.

The participants will be required to attend training, run by qualified staff, at regular sessions after school during the year. They will also be required to complete two overnight walking choose expeditions. The total cost is £85 for each participant and includes enrolment, the expeditions and group equipment. The school benefits from a large stock of group equipment including tents, Trangias and rucksacks, however all personal equipment like clothing and boots need to be provided independently. If your child is a pupil premium student, there will be a reduced cost of £30 with the remaining payment covered by a grant. Please make the reduced payment in the same way as described below and a staff member will contact you in due course to confirm the payment.

The payment may be made by bank transfer (**your payment will need to include your child's Initial then last name and DofE - e.g. J Bloggs DofE**):

Please note- The school bank account has changed since last year so please take care to use the details below.

Bank details

Account name AAT t/a Knole Academy – School Fund A/C

Bank- Lloyds Bank plc

Branch- Gravesend Branch

Account number- 82420468

Sort code- 309360

Alternatively, payment may be made by cash or cheque (cheques should be made payable to Knole Academy) and handed directly to Miss Stock, Mrs Walker or Mr Ereaut, **not** the finance department. The DofE is valued by many potential employers and by those assessing applications to further and higher educational establishments. For more information on the DofE please visit their website www.dofe.org.

If you would like your child to take part, please complete the online registration form on the Knole Academy website under the extracurricular section <https://www.knoleacademy.org/3239/dofe-bronze-consent-form-2024>. The last date to sign up and pay is 18 October 2024. If you require a payment extension, please email me to discuss the matter as this can be arranged.

The first expedition will take place on 17 and 18 May 2025. The second expedition will take place on 7 and 8 June 2025 and will be a self-supported trip. You will be provided with more information on these expeditions early next year.

There is an amazing amount of information out there on what the DofE is about. Here are a few very useful links of the award.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GuZMfkbMW6M>

<https://www.dofe.org/do/>

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at sereaut@knoleacademy.org.

Yours faithfully



Mr Ereaut

DofE Manager
