

11 September 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme – Silver Award 2025-26

As part of the extra-curricular opportunities by Knole Academy, we are delighted to start the process of recruitment for this academic year's Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award. We are recruiting Silver recruits from Year 10 only.

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 take you at least 6 months for Silver if you've already achieved your Bronze, or 12 months if you've jumped straight into Silver. **Students can take part in Silver DofE who did not take part in Bronze DofE.**

- Volunteering section: 6 months
- Physical and Skills sections: One section for 6 months and the other section for 3 months
- Expedition section: 3 days/2 nights in May and June dates TBC

If you didn't do Bronze, you must undertake a further 6 months in either the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.

The participants will be required to attend training, run by qualified staff during lunchtimes. They will also be required to complete one 3 day and 2 night assessed expedition and one 3 day and 2 night practice expedition. The cost is £130 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 needs to be provided independently. If your child is a pupil premium student, there will be a reduced cost of £35 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 £130 payment may be made on the Arbor Parent Portal under trips.

Alternatively, payment may be made by cash or cheque (cheques should be made payable to Knole Academy) and handed directly to Mrs Walker, Miss Stock 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 by clicking on the following link: <https://www.knoleacademy.org/our-school/contact/dofe-silver-form/>

The last date to sign up and pay is 17 October 2025. If you require a payment extension, please email me to discuss the matter.

The expeditions are physically demanding so a reasonable level of fitness is required. The Duke of Edinburgh Inclusive group is specifically for young people with disabilities and additional needs, so if your child has any form of disability, please feel free to speak to me so we can make special arrangements to enable them to participate in the award.

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

Yours faithfully



Mr Ereaut
DofE Coordinator
