

12 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award

We are pleased to be writing to you with information about the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award which we have launched with our Year 9 students. As I'm sure you'll be aware the Duke of Edinburgh Award (D of E) is a great opportunity for young people to develop vital life skills and confidence, which will benefit them greatly as they prepare for their GCSEs and beyond. The D of E scheme at Stocksbridge High School is supported by myself, Miss Halmay and Mr Griffin.

The Bronze award had 4 key areas which your child would need to work towards;

- Skill
- Physical
- Volunteering
- Expedition

The activities which are chosen for their skills, physical and volunteering sections need to be undertaken for 3 months, with one of these being extended to 6 months. We will run afterschool sessions to enroll students onto the D of E portal and support them with choosing these activities. A leaflet has also been attached to this letter, giving more detailed information about the different sections of the award.

The expedition section is often the highlight for many of our students, developing teamwork, resilience and navigation skills; but is also a chance to be out in the Peak District camping with their friends. We've been out in all weathers, but the students never fail to have fun and make memories! **The first practice expedition will take place on Thursday 15 and Friday 16 May 2025, with the second expedition taking place on Thursday 11 and Friday 12 September 2025. Your child attends both expeditions to complete their bronze award.**

To prepare your child for the expedition we will lead a **practice walk in the local area on Sunday 23 March 2025** where students can develop their map reading skills. In addition to this there are bi-weekly training sessions from 3.15-4pm on Thursday week 1 of the timetable, starting on Thursday 7 November 2024. It is important that your child attends these sessions. Further information about these sessions and the kit needed for the expedition will be sent out once your child's D of E place has been confirmed.

The total cost for the D of E at Stocksbridge High School is £140. This includes a non-refundable D of E enrolment fee which provides access to an individual D of E on-line portal up to the age of 25 and your child's welcome pack which will be sent to you directly once the enrolments are completed. Included in the cost are the 2 expeditions including camping fees and kit such as tents and Trangias.

All payments required will be paid through ParentPay.

| Deadline Date | Amount to Pay – |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Friday 11 October 2024 | £35 |
| Friday 10 January 2025 | £35 |
| Friday 28 March 2025 | £35 |
| Friday 2 May 2025 | £35 |
| TOTAL | £140 |

Payment Clause

Please note failure to meet the payment deadlines may result in your child being removed from the award and any cancellation fees will be deducted from monies paid by you. In the event of cancellation, all payments made will be subject to cancellation fees.

Behaviour Clause

As with any trip the safety and enjoyment for all students and staff is paramount. Please understand that attendance on any educational trip is subject to good behaviour and attendance across the school. Behaviour points and attendance will be monitored. Where there are any school based behavioural or attendance concerns the school reserves the right to retract the offer of a place and any monies paid will be lost.

I look forward to supporting your child with their bronze award. If you have any questions please contact me through the email address below.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J Mills
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