



8 September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

### **The Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award – Year 10 (2023-24 cohort)**

I am pleased to inform you that we are offering The Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award as an extra-curricular activity to our Year 10 students. The Award is a nationally recognised qualification for young people, designed to encourage them to develop independence, commitment, leadership and teamwork, through involvement in a personalised programme of activities.

The Silver Award is made up of four parts and those taking part are required to complete all four sections in the academic year September 2023 – July 2024:

- **Skill:** Developing a new skill or continuing to improve an existing skill
- **Physical:** participating in physical activity, including sport
- **Volunteering:** being involved in an activity that benefits others
- **Expedition:** completing a training day, two-day practice and two-day assessed hike, both with an overnight camp

The Physical, Skills and Volunteering sections must be undertaken once a week, with the Volunteering section being completed over 6 months. For the Physical and Skills sections, you must spend 6 months on one and 3 months on the other – your child can decide which way round to do it. If your child is going to do the Silver Award without having completed the Bronze Award, they will need to do a further 6 months either Volunteering or on one of the Physical or Skills sections. The Silver Award will, therefore, last at least 12 months unless your child has completed the Bronze Award, where it will last at least 6 months. Although students will be assisted in selecting appropriate activities and monitored throughout the delivery of the Award, completion of these sections will primarily be the responsibility of the students taking part. A suggested activities sheet is attached.

The Expedition section will be run by Cox Green School and requires students to undertake a full day's training session (held at school), as well as one practice and one assessed expedition – the practice is three days and two nights, and the assessed is four days and three nights. The plan is to visit the Henley area for the practice expedition and The Wye Valley for the assessed expedition and this will be confirmed nearer the time. Please see the dates below. Attendance on all dates is compulsory. Students are expected to attend school the following day after the expeditions.

<b>Training</b>	Friday 22 March 2024
<b>Pre-Expedition Information Meeting</b>	Wednesday 27 March 2024 (time TBC)
<b>Practice Expedition</b>	Friday 19 – Sunday 21 April 2024
<b>Assessed Expedition</b>	Friday 5 – Monday 8 July 2024

### **Commitment and Costs**

Students must commit to completing all four parts of the Award, with a view to completing by the end of the academic year and parents/carers must commit to support this.

The cost of registering for the Award and for undertaking the expeditions is **£185**. Tents, cooking equipment and maps are provided. Students will have to have their own personal expedition equipment, for example, waterproofs, suitable footwear, rucksack and a sleeping bag. A kit list will be provided nearer the time.

There are a maximum of 26 places available and if you would like your child to participate in the DofE Silver Award, we request a non-refundable deposit of £100 to be paid using your child's existing sQuid account. You will be able to do this from **7pm on Sunday 24 September 2023** (closing; 10pm on Sunday 1 October 2023). In the unlikely event that this trip oversells on sQuid, places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, by time of booking transaction, and a waiting list will be held.

We would advise parents/carers to log in to sQuid using a web browser rather than using the sQuid app. We have found that occasionally, certain phone models do not fully support the functionality of the sQuid app and parents/carers have struggled to complete the booking process. Please ensure you select the trip from the Trips/Offer Section, add the trip to your basket, agree to the Terms & Conditions, and then fully check out. Please ensure you select the correct offer for the year group your child is in.

For your information, the remaining payment dates are listed below. Please note that all payments can be made at any time but each one **must** be paid by the date stated:

Payment Required	To be paid by
£100 deposit (non-refundable)	at time of booking (but by 1 October 2023)
£85	28 February 2024

An information evening for parents/carers and students who are interested in signing up, or have questions about the DofE Award, will be held on Thursday 21 September at 6pm in the school theatre. Please complete the form on the following link, to confirm your attendance at the information evening. <https://forms.office.com/e/ity1ftAF3k>

If you have any queries in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me via email.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Morris

Leader: The Duke of Edinburgh Awards

**Please note:**

- *Places on all trips are subject to the school expectations for the Behaviour Policy being met. Any student who receives a suspension may have their place withdrawn from the trip and no refund will be made unless the place can be resold. In addition, if the school assesses that the attendance on a trip is a Health and Safety risk to the student or to others, a place will not be allocated to that student or a place will be withdrawn and there will be no refund made unless the place can be resold.*
- *Should your child be unable to attend a trip due to medical reasons, we will require a Medical Certificate to apply for an insurance claim.*
- *If the trip is cancelled due to uncontrollable circumstances i.e. weather, Foreign/Home Office guidance, the refunding of costs will be subject to insurance cover.*
- *If your child is, or has ever been in receipt of free school meals, then you may be eligible for assistance with the costs of this trip, from the school's Pupil Premium funding. To make a request for assistance please contact the Finance Office via email: [finance@coxgreen.com](mailto:finance@coxgreen.com) or in writing to the school; including your child's name and form, stating that they are, or have been in receipt of free school meals. The Pupil Premium funding is to be used for educational purposes only.*
- *Please note that Pupil Premium support for this trip is limited to 10% of the total cost of the trip and all requests should be made by 12 noon on Friday 15 September 2023.*
- *Payments are to be made by the dates specified. Late or non-payment may result in your child's place being withdrawn from the trip. If you choose to withdraw your child for reasons not stated above, any costs attributed to date, must still be made.*
- *Should the school need to contact you in an emergency, we will use contact details supplied on your most recent OA4 Form (off-site activity form). If there are any changes to the details on this form, including any medical or dietary requirements, it is the parent/carer responsibility to inform the school.*

- *This is an optional trip and is not essential to the curriculum or completion of the syllabus being studied.*
  - *There will be no insurance cover due to disinclination to travel.*
  - *In the unlikely event that this trip oversells on sQuid, places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis by time of booking transaction, and a waiting list will be held.*
-

**Application** - to be returned to Mr Morris (Maths Department).

**Application to participate in The Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award**

**Section 1** – to be completed by the student

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Form: \_\_\_\_\_

What clubs/extracurricular activities do you currently take part in, within and outside of school?

What could you do for your skills section (1 hour a week for 3-12 months)?

What could you do for your physical section (1 hour a week for 3-12 months)?

What could you do for your volunteering section (1 hour a week for 6-12 months)?

Extra information.

In this section, explain **why** you want to do the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award and **how you think you will benefit from it**. Complete this section carefully and in detail.

Signature of student: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Section 2** – to be completed by parent/carer

Name of parent/carer \_\_\_\_\_

Tel No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your child's personal details:	
First name:	Surname:
Gender: Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	Date of Birth:
Your child's school email address:	
If your child has registered for the DofE previously, please record the name of the Centre and their eDofE ID number below:	
Centre:	ID number:

Please indicate if your child has any of the conditions below, and provide further information.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Problems with sight or hearing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental health conditions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia or ME	<input type="checkbox"/>	Impairments due to injury to the body or brain
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any conditions which affect certain organs such as heart disease, asthma and strokes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Has or have had cancer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Learning disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multiple Sclerosis
<input type="checkbox"/>	Learning difficulties such as dyslexia and dyspraxia	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other condition
<input type="checkbox"/>	Autistic spectrum disorders	<input type="checkbox"/>	None of these conditions

If you have indicated a medical condition above, please provide further information in the box below.

I wish my son/daughter to be considered for the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award. I confirm that he/she will:

- Undertake between 3 and 12 months of Skill Development, Physical Activity and Volunteering
- Attend the one-day Expedition training session, the three-day Practice Expedition, and the four-day Assessed Expedition
- I understand that if my son/daughter does not complete the above activities then they may be asked to leave the programme
- I understand that if my son/daughter's attitude and behaviour fall below that which is acceptable, then they may be asked to leave the programme
- I understand once my child has been accepted, any monies paid are non- refundable

Please tick below if:

My child receives Free School Meals  I would like to be considered for financial assistance

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Carer Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Suggested Activities Sheet

When completing each section of your DofE, you should develop a programme, which is specific and relevant to you. This sheet gives you a list of ideas that you could do to help you create a programme of your own.

<p><b>Volunteering Section</b></p>	<p><b>Volunteering gives you the chance to make a difference to people's lives and use your skills and experience to help your local community. You can use this opportunity to become involved in a project or with an organisation that you care about.</b></p>	
<p><b><u>Community action &amp; raising awareness</u></b>          Campaigning          Cyber safety          Council representation          Drug &amp; alcohol education          Home accident prevention          Peer education Personal safety          Promotion &amp; PR Road safety <b><u>Working with the environment or animals</u></b>          Animal welfare Environment          Rural conservation Preserving waterways          Working at an animal rescue centre          Litter picking Urban conservation          Beach and coastline conservation          Zoo/farm/nature reserve work</p>	<p><b><u>Helping a charity or community organisation</u></b>          Administration          Being a charity intern          Being a volunteer lifeguard          Event management Fundraising          Mountain rescue          Religious education          Serving a faith community Supporting a charity          Working in a charity shop  <b><u>Helping people</u></b> Helping children          Helping older people Helping people in need          Helping people with special needs          Youth work</p>	<p><b><u>Coaching, teaching and leadership</u></b>          Dance leadership          DofE Leadership          Group leadership          Leading a voluntary organisation group:          - Girls' Venture Corps          - Sea Cadets          - Air Cadets          - Jewish Lads' and Girls' Brigade          - St John Ambulance          - Scout Association          - Air Training Corps - Army Cadet Force          - Boys' Brigade          - CCF          - Church Lads' &amp; Girls' Brigade          - Girlguiding UK- Girls' Brigade          - Boys' Brigade          - Sports leadership          - Music tuition</p>
<p><b>Physical Section</b></p>	<p><b>Doing physical activity is fun and improves your health and physical fitness. There's an activity to suit everyone so choose something you are interested in.</b></p>	
<p><b><u>Individual sports</u></b>          Archery          Athletics (any field or track event)          Biathlon/Triathlon/Pentathlon          Bowling Boxing          Croquet          Cross country running          Cycling          Fencing          Golf          Horse riding          Modern pentathlon          Orienteering          Pétanque          Roller blading Running          Static trapeze Wrestling</p> <p><b><u>Water sports</u></b>          Canoeing          Diving          Dragon Boat Racing          Free-diving          Kneeboarding          Rowing &amp; sculling          Sailing Skurfing          Sub aqua (SCUBA diving &amp; snorkelling)          Surfing/body boarding Swimming          Synchronised swimming Windsurfing</p> <p><b><u>Racquet sports</u></b>          Badminton Matkot          Racketlon          Rapid ball          Real tennis Squash          Table tennis Tennis</p>	<p><b><u>Dance</u></b>          Ballet          Ballroom dancing Belly dancing          Bhangra dancing Ceroc          Contra dance          Country &amp; Western          Flamenco          Folk dancing          Jazz Line dancing Morris dancing          Salsa (or other Latin styles) dancing          Scottish/Welsh/Irish dancing          Street dancing/breakdancing/ hip hop          Swing Tap dancing</p> <p><b><u>Martial arts</u></b> Aikido          Capoeira          Ju Jitsu Judo          Karate Self-defence          Sumo          Tae Kwon Do Tai Chi</p> <p><b><u>Extreme sports</u></b> Caving &amp; potholing          Climbing          Free running (parkour)          Ice skating          Mountain biking          Mountain unicycling          Parachuting          Skateboarding          Skydiving          Snow sports (skiing, snowboarding)          Snowkiting          Speed skating Street luge</p>	<p><b><u>Team sports</u></b>          American football          Baseball          Basketball Boccia          Camogie          Cricket Curling          Dodge disc          Dodgeball Fives          Football Hockey          Hurling          Kabaddi Korfbal          Lacrosse Netball          Octopushing Polo          Rogaining Rounders          Rugby          Sledge hockey          Stoolball          Tchoukball          Ultimate flying disc          Underwater rugby          Volleyball Water polo</p> <p><b><u>Fitness</u></b>          Aerobics / Fitness classes          Cheerleading Gym work          Gymnastics          Medau movement          Physical achievement          Pilates          Running/jogging/walking          Trampolineing          Weightlifting          Yoga</p>

<b>Skills Section</b>	Developing a skill helps you get better at something you are really interested in and gives you the confidence and ability to use this skill both now and later in life.	
<p><b><u>Performance arts</u></b>            Ballet appreciation            Ceremonial drill Circus skills            Conjuring &amp; magic            Dance appreciation            Majorettes Puppetry            Singing            Speech &amp; drama Theatre appreciation            Ventriloquism            Yoyo extreme</p> <p><b><u>Science &amp; technology</u></b>            Aerodynamics Anatomy            Astronomy            Biology Botany            Chemistry Ecology            Electronics            Engineering            Entomology            IT            Marine biology            Oceanography            Palaeontology            Physics            Rocket making            Taxonomy            Weather/meteorology            Website design Zoology</p> <p><b><u>Care of animals</u></b>            Agriculture (keeping livestock)            Aquarium keeping Beekeeping            Caring for reptiles Dog training &amp; handling            Horse/donkey/llama/alpaca handling &amp; care            Keeping of pets            Looking after birds (i.e. budgies &amp; canaries)            Pigeon breeding &amp; racing</p> <p><b><u>Music</u></b>            Church bell ringing            Composing            DJing            Evaluating music &amp; musical performances            Improvising melodies            Listening to, analysing &amp; describing music            Music appreciation            Playing a musical instrument            Playing in a band            Reading &amp; notating music            Understanding music in relation to history &amp; culture</p> <p><b><u>Natural world</u></b> Agriculture            Conservation Forestry            Gardening            Groundsmanship            Growing carnivorous plants            Plant growing            Snail farming            Vegetable growing</p>	<p><b><u>Games &amp; sports</u></b>            Cards (i.e. bridge) Chess            Clay target shooting            Cycle maintenance            Darts            Dominoes            Fishing/fly fishing            Flying Gliding            Go-karting            Historical period re-enacting            Kite construction &amp; flying            Mah Jongg            Marksmanship            Model construction &amp; racing            Motor sports            Power boating            Snooker, pool &amp; billiards            Sports appreciation Sports leadership            Sports officiating            Table games War games</p> <p><b><u>Life skills</u></b>            Alternative therapies Cookery            Democracy in action            Digital lifestyle            Driving: car maintenance/car road skills            Driving: motorcycle maintenance/road skills            Event planning First Aid – St John/St Andrew/BRCs            Hair &amp; beauty            Learning about the emergency services            Learning about the RNLI (Lifeboats)            Library &amp; information skills            Life skills            Massage            Money management            Navigation            Public speaking and debating            Skills for employment            Young Enterprise</p> <p><b><u>Learning &amp; collecting</u></b>            Aeronautics            Aircraft recognition Anthropology            Archaeology Astronautics Astronomy            Bird watching            Coastal navigation            Coins            Collections, studies &amp; surveys            Comics            Contemporary legends            Costume study Criminology            Dowsing &amp; divining Fashion            Forces insignia            Gemstones Genealogy            Heraldry History            of art            Language skills Military history Movie posters            Postcards            Reading            Religious studies Ship recognition            Stamp collecting</p>	<p><b><u>Creative arts</u></b>            Basket making            Boat work Brass rubbing            Building catapults &amp; trebuchets            Cake decoration Camping gear making            Candle-making            Canoe building            Canvas work            Construction            Ceramics            Clay modelling            Crocheting            Cross stitch            DIY            Dough craft Drawing            Dressmaking            Egg decorating            Embroidery Enamelling            Fabric printing Feng Shui            Floral decoration French polishing Furniture restoration            Glass blowing Glass painting            Interior design            Jewellery making            Knitting            Lace making            Leatherwork            Lettering &amp; calligraphy            Macramé            Marquetry            Model construction Mosaic            Painting &amp; design            Patchwork            Photography            Pottery            Quilting            Rope work            Rug making            Snack pipping            Soft toy making            Tatting            Taxidermy            Textiles            Weaving and spinning            Wine/beer making            Woodwork</p> <p><b><u>Media &amp; communication</u></b>            Amateur radio            Communicating with people who are visually impaired            Communicating with people who have a hearing impediment            Film &amp; video making            Journalism            Newsletter &amp; magazine production            Signalling            Writing</p>