

# Duke of Edinburgh

The Aim of the Award. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award aims to provide for young people an enjoyable, challenging and rewarding programme of personal development, which is of the highest quality and the widest reach.

**Key Principles.** It is essential for everyone involved in the Award, whether as a participant or leader, to share a common understanding of the principles which underpin all aspects of the Programme's delivery. These key principles are:

**Non-competitive.** The Award is a personal challenge and not a competition against others. Each participant's programme is tailor-made to reflect their individual starting point, abilities and interests.

**Available to All.** With a commitment to equal opportunities, the Award Programme is available to all young people who choose to take up its challenge.

**Voluntary.** Young people make a free choice to enter the programme and commit their own time to undertake the activities.

**Flexible** Young people design their own programme, which can be geared to their own choice and personal circumstances and also to local provision. They may enter for whichever level of Award best suits them and may take as long as they wish to complete an Award.

**Balanced.** By choosing activities in each of four different Sections (five at Gold), participants undertake a balanced and wide ranging programme.

**Progressive.** At each level, the Award Programme demands more time and an increasing degree of commitment, and responsibility from the participant.

**Achievement focused.** Before starting an activity, young people are encouraged to set their own goals. If they aim for those goals and show improvement, they will achieve their Award.

**Marathon, not a sprint.** The Award demands persistence and commitment and cannot be completed in a short burst of enthusiasm. Participants may want to continue with activities beyond the minimum time requirements set out for each level of the Award.

**Personal development.** The Award is a programme of personal and social development. The value to young people is dependent on personal commitment, the learning process and the quality of the experience.

**Enjoyable.** Young people and helpers should find participation enjoyable and satisfying.

**What you have to do.** The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a voluntary, non-competitive programme of practical, cultural and adventurous activities, designed to support the personal and

social development of young people aged 14-25, regardless of gender, background or ability. It offers an individual challenge and encourages young people to undertake exciting, constructive, challenging and enjoyable activities in their free time.

## **Phew!**

Award Groups are run by adults, many of whom are volunteers, including youth workers, teachers, employers, trainers, Instructors, Assessors and individuals from the community, all of whom are keen to share their skills, enthusiasm and organising abilities to help young people reach their potential.

## **It is a four-Section Programme with three progressive levels:**

- **Bronze (for those aged 14 and over)**
- **Silver (for those aged 15 and over) and**
- **Gold (for those aged 16 and over).**

## **The Sections involve:**

- **Service (helping other people in the local community)**
- **Expeditions (training for, planning and completing a journey on foot or horseback, by boat or cycle)**
- **Skills (covering almost any hobby, skill or interest)**
- **Physical Recreation (sport, dance and fitness)**

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## **Bronze Level**

The award consists of four areas; skill, service, physical recreation and an expedition. The girls will have the opportunity to complete all of these areas through School or they have the option to complete certain areas externally. There are further details below.

The Duke of Edinburgh's award costs £16.00 to register with Surrey County Council, and Prior's Field charge £50, split over 2 terms. This is to cover expedition, travel and equipment costs. This comes to a total of £65. The £16 needs to be paid by cheque, made out to: Surrey County Council. The £50 will be added to your School bill.

As part of the Expedition training, the girls we will be given some basic First Aid training and they will also be carrying their own personal first aid kit with any personal medication. It would however be very helpful if you could pass on any relevant medical information that you think the staff running the expeditions should be aware of. Should it be impossible to contact parents/guardians in an emergency, staff acting in loco parentis will administer such treatment as is deemed necessary. (Obviously, our medical centre will have this information for boarders, but please do let us know of any updates in conditions if that is relevant.) Please see me for registration forms.

The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze is a significant and important qualification which tests your daughter's ability to think for themselves, take responsibility, plan tasks and work in a team. It is of huge educational benefit to them and we are sure that they will make a great success of these final challenges.

Mrs A Morwood

### **What Can be done in School**

Service, Skills and Physical recreational sections can all be completed through school. Here are some examples

(3 months for each section and an additional 3 months in one of these units)

**Service** (Service and community work)

Sports Leadership qualification (registration cost £15.00)

Spring Term Tuesday lunch time for triple Science Students

Period 4 Wednesday

Both groups will be going out to local primary school to work directly with primary aged children and to teach them sport.

This equals 3 months.

- Interact / Young Rotary – ongoing commitment to service projects through this group over 3 terms.
- Outreach in school – support in Junior Boarding House.
- Participating in the greener schools campaign.
- Assisting in running a club for younger girls
- Editing school magazine
- Working for pupil pages on school website

### **Physical Recreation opportunities:**

- Any Team sport outside school.

· – can include school teams

· Aerobics.

· Dance / cheerleading / running / swimming /horse-riding /self-defence? / yoga- regular weekly commitment to any of these physical clubs over two terms.

**Skills –**

**There are a great many new skills on offer in the clubs and activities programme.**

**Examples might be:**

Juggling

Photography

School magazine

lace making

Any art club

Chess

Debating

Garden design

Any musical instrument

These are only suggestions of ways in which your daughter can meet the requirements of the course in school. But of course, she can learn a new skill or commit to a physical activity outside of school if she wishes.