TPS | The Petersfield School

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Headteacher: Mr M P Marande BA (Hons) MA

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am delighted to offer all students in Year 9 the opportunity to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Scheme.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is a nationally recognised youth development programme that helps young people to develop their initiative, organisation, commitment and teamwork. It is a challenging yet stimulating and rewarding programme that significantly enhances participant's' college and job applications.

The award is separated into four sections: volunteering, physical, skills and an expedition. I will provide a brief overview below however detailed information about the award scheme can be found at the Duke of Edinburgh website here: www.dofe.org/do/

Volunteering, Physical and Skills Sections

The volunteering, physical and skill sections are to be organised by the participant and undertaken in their own time; lessons in the school day do not count. Participants are required to spend one hour per week undertaking each of the three sections with two of the sections being conducted over a three-month period and one being conducted over a six-month period.

Each section requires evidence of completion which may include photos/videos/logbooks etc, as well as a self-reflection and assessor's report by an adult not related to the participant. It is the participant's responsibility to ask the assessor if they are happy to support them before they undertake the activity.

The Expedition Section

To complete the expedition section participants must complete a self-sufficient walk over 2 days compromising of at least 6 hours of planned activity each day and one night camping. We will provide training and preparation for the expedition which will be conducted in partnership with Hampshire Outdoors, a DofE approved, non-profit activity provider.

Expedition training and assessment dates for this year are:

- **School Training 14:40 to 16:20 -** Learning basics like the countryside code. Students must attend *one* Wednesday session of **20 January or 03 February 2027**.
- **Training Weekend - Saturday 06 and Sunday 07 March 2027.** Students will be taught by Hampshire Outdoor Staff all the necessary skills needed for their expedition. This takes place at school and involves no overnight camping.

- **Route Planning Sessions 14:40 to 16:20 -** Students must attend *one* Wednesday session of **17 March or 24 March 2027**.
- **Final Expedition - Friday 30 April to Saturday 01 May 2027** at Queen Elizabeth Country Park.

It is imperative that ***participants attend all the above*** events to be able to complete the expedition section and achieve their award.

Registration & Fees

The cost to participate in this year's award is: £265. This consists of:

- DofE Registration Fee - £33
- Training Weekend and Expedition Cost – £210
- Administration costs - £22

To register and be enrolled in the scheme you must:

1) Complete the consent and medical form here: Medical & Consent Form
2) Pay a **non-refundable deposit of £50** on Parent Pay at item: 'Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award 26/27' by **Friday 06 November 2026**
3) Indicate your *likely* activities for physical, skills and volunteering using the form here: Section Choices Form
4) Pay the remaining balance of £215 by Friday 12 February 2027. This can be paid in instalments through ParentPay at your own discretion.

Financial Support

Our aim is for every student who would like to take part to have the opportunity to do so. If finances may make participation difficult, there are several forms of support available through both the school and the DofE charity. We are keen for as many students as possible to be able to participate, so please don't hesitate to contact me to discuss the support that may be available.

Further Information & Support

Whilst the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme is intended to promote self-reliance, organisation and commitment we recognise that young people will still need significant help

from parents and school staff to complete it. The following support will be provided throughout the year:

- Year 9 eDofE Information & Login Session
- Regular updates through Team TPS newsletter and Class Charts announcements
- All the information you need is available on our DofE Sway Information Page using the link at the end of this letter.

In addition, participants can speak to Mrs Glue, Miss Howell or me at school during any time that we are free.

I look forward to celebrating the successful completion of the award with Year 9 next summer. If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact.

Yours sincerely,

Miss M Taylor

Co-Leader of Outdoor Education

mtaylor@petersfieldschool.com



Duke of Edinburgh 2026

If you would like some more information please follow this link to head to our Sway Website.

Go to this Sway