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Principal: Mrs S Morris, BSc Hons, ARCS, MBA

24 June 2025

Dear Parent/Carers

Ref: Duke of Edinburgh Award

The aim of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) is to provide young people with an enjoyable, challenging and rewarding programme of personal development, which is of the highest quality and widest reach. Young people doing their DofE programme complete four different types of activity, the first three (Volunteering, Physical and Skill) must be carried out in their spare time and not during school hours and the fourth has to be completed at a time determined by the Academy.

The Bronze Award - Training and Expeditions

The participants will receive training prior to the expedition on Saturday 21 March 2026 at the Academy site by East Coast Outdoors CIC. The expedition will involve planning a 2 day walking route with an overnight camp at a campsite and will be from Friday 8th May to Sunday 10th May 2026 at Danbury Campsite and will also be led by East Coast Outdoors CIC and will be the Navigation Day and Qualifier.

Costs

The DoFE Bronze including the expedition will cost £190 with the first payment of £80 being due 1 October 2025 which will be non-refundable. The second payment will be due before the 1st February 2026 for £80 and the final payment of £30 for the 1st March. All payments will then be non-refundable once we have made a deposit payment and commitment to East Coast Outdoors. For both expeditions parental support in transport to and from the site may be required. The school minibus will be used where possible. Details will be available closer to the dates of the expedition.

We will aim to keep costs for the expeditions to a minimum by using the equipment we currently have at the Academy and by hiring from another Academy in our trust. There will be certain items that will be beneficial for students to own themselves: water proofs and walking boots for example.

In order to enroll in the DofE Award Scheme. Simply log onto https://www.ipayimpact.co.uk with your Username and Password. From the Home Page, click on Accounts and select your child's name, followed by the Details button to the right of the Fund Name choose with the 'DofE Bronze Enrollment 2026'. Payment will be taken as confirmation that you have given permission for your child to take part in the DofE Bronze Award and then complete the questionnaire.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is about commitment and persistence and therefore if the successful participants do not show that they are in the process of completing their 3 activities or do not turn up to any expedition training sessions then they will not be allowed to attend the expedition section of the award through the Academy and any money paid up to this point would be forfeited.

















Students can also purchase a personalised DofE hoodie from Everyday Range | DofE This would be great as your son/daughter can also wear this when out and about doing their volunteering but is entirely optional.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss this further, then please feel free to contact Miss Cooke or Mr. King.

Yours sincerely

Miss E Cooke DofE Manager

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Mr O King Assistant DofE Manager

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