

Dear Parents / Carers,

Re: Duke of Edinburgh Award

Your son/daughter has been invited to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. This is an exciting extracurricular opportunity for Y9 students at St Aldhelm's Academy. This letter gives an overview of the Award, programme ideas plus an enrolment form.

What is the Duke of Edinburgh Award?

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is an extremely rewarding programme which enables students to develop skills such as teamwork, time management, responsibility, commitment, and reliability. It is also great fun; the expedition seems to be the favourite part of the award! The Award is also recognised both in the UK and globally by employers, colleges, and universities.

What's involved in the Award?

The Award consists of 4 Sections; Volunteering, Skill, Physical and Expedition. For Bronze level, the Volunteering, Skill, and Physical sections involve a regular commitment, approximately 1 hour a week, over a 3-month period for each of the sections. The sections do not need to be completed at the same time and can be staggered throughout the year if more convenient. Students may select from a huge range of activities for each section – a full list of options can be found on the Award website (www.dofe.org). Many students will already be doing activities which they could use towards their Duke of Edinburgh Award, or they may have their own ideas for new activities. There are also several opportunities through school for the students to complete the Skill, Volunteering and Physical sections while also trying something new, making new friends and learning new skills.

What about the Expedition Season?

The Bronze Expedition takes place over a period of two days and one night. This involves each participant carrying everything they will need for this time – including food, stoves, clothes, tents and sleeping bags. Training topics include map and compass work, navigation skills, first aid, cooking and use of stoves, personal and group kit and risk assessment. Dates are to be confirmed.

What will it cost?

To take part in the bronze award, pupils will need to pay a total of £100. This will be paid in 3 instalments.

- An initial £40 deposit will need to be paid by **Monday 2nd November**.
- The second instalment of £30 will be due on **Tuesday 1st December**.
- The third and final instalment of £30 will be due on **Monday 4th January**.

St. Aldhelm's Academy

Stuart Ingram, Regional Director
Matt Britt, Chief Education Officer
Sir Jon Coles, Interim Chief Executive Officer

01202 732 500
www.staldhelms-academy.co.uk
staldhelms@saa.weareauthentic.education
Herbert Avenue, Poole, Dorset, BH12 4HS

Payments will be payable via Parent Pay through the school website. If you feel you may find it difficult to pay the full amount, please get in contact with us, as we may be able to provide a reduced rate through additional funding and do not want that to be a barrier to pupils being involved in this opportunity.

How can I find out more?

If you would like further information about the Award, please visit the Duke of Edinburgh Award website at www.dofe.org. Also, feel free to email, Mr Chibamba at [blessings.chibamba@saa.weareauthentic.education](mailto: blessings.chibamba@saa.weareauthentic.education) or Mr Nicolson at owen.nicolson@saa.weareauthentic.education with any follow up questions.

If you would like your student to take part in the Award, please complete the form below and return it to Mr Chibamba in the PE office.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Chibamba & Mr Nicolson

BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH REGISTRATION

Please return this reply slip to Mr Chibamba by Friday 16th October to confirm your Bronze Duke of Edinburgh enrolment.

Name of Student: _____

Tutor Group: _____

I, Agree/Disagree (please highlight) for my child to take part in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Signed (Parent/Carer): _____

Date: _____

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