



15th July 2025

Dear Parent/Carer(s)

Duke of Edinburgh Update

We would like to provide you with important updates regarding the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) for the upcoming year.

One significant alteration is that we will no longer hold the Wednesday after-school DofE sessions. Instead, we will be replacing this with a comprehensive DofE Training Day run by Adventure Expeditions an external company who have an outstanding reputation, this will be designed to offer students the opportunity to acquire and practise the essential skills necessary for success during their expedition.

The training day will be scheduled for either Thursday 11th September or Friday 12th September. Students will be informed of their designated day upon our return to school. The day will operate during normal school hours, and students are expected to attend just as they would on any typical school day.

The practice expedition is planned for the weekend of Friday 26th to Saturday 27th September, and the final expedition will occur from Friday 10th to Saturday 11th October. Prior to the expeditions, we will host an information evening where more information will be shared, and campsites will be confirmed.

Information for the Training Day run by Adventure Expeditions:

Dates: Thursday 11th September or Friday 12th September 2025

Students should arrive at school at the usual time and attend tutor time as normal. Throughout the day, they will engage in training sessions following the Bronze DofE Training Framework, which will cover topics such as map reading, emergency procedures, first aid, personal kit management and food preparation. Breaks and lunchtime will occur as usual, and students will conclude their day at the regular time.

Important: Since a significant proportion of the training day will be spent outdoors, students are required to wear suitable warm clothing (not their school uniform) and ensure they bring a waterproof jacket, waterproof trousers, and their walking boots.

If feasible, please bring all personal kit as outlined in the provided Personal Kit List. This will aid in familiarising students with the experience of carrying a loaded rucksack during their qualifying expedition. Should they face challenges in bringing their expedition rucksack, they may at a minimum bring their walking boots, warm jacket, hat, gloves, and waterproof gear for the onsite training day. Preparation for outdoor conditions is essential throughout the DofE experience.

Items required for the training day:

Personal Kit:

Please thoroughly review the Personal Kit List (provided as a separate document) and ensure all items are included.

Consent Form:

Kindly complete the online consent form and inform us of any medical issues, allergies, or additional needs, so that our instructor team can best support each student during the expedition.

Your consent form link: <https://adventure-expeditions.net/consent-form/yM0rbBM4XyjuY1K5g9Nn>

Please note that without a completed consent form, participation will not be permitted; kindly ensure this is done well in advance.

As discussed in the information evening, the total cost of Duke of Edinburgh is £120. This takes into account the £30 registration fee and £90 to cover the cost of running the programme. This is currently on ParentPay, as two separate payments. We ask for this to be paid by **Thursday 31st July 2025**.

Please may you let us know if your child no longer wishes to complete Duke of Edinburgh. Otherwise, we will assume they still want this place.

We hope to provide an enriching experience for all participants. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully



Mr Smith and Miss Taylor

Duke of Edinburgh Team

dukeofedinburgh@woodcotehigh.org.uk