



Willingdon
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted to inform you that we will be offering the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Bronze Award qualification to Year 9 & 10 students for the remainder of this academic year. Your child has been shown information relating to the qualification by their tutor and has the option to get involved. There are four different sections which students will have to pass in order to gain the qualification, these include the Physical section, Skill section, Volunteering section and Expedition.

In order to begin completing the qualification, we are required to enrol the students onto the DofE online portal. This allows them to update all of their progress and create a profile for their DofE assessors to access and ensure they meet the criteria to gain the Bronze level qualification. **An initial enrolment fee of £25.50 is required per student. This can be made via ParentPay and is allocated on a first come first served basis.** Places are limited for students to get involved and a place is only obtained once the enrolment fee is received.

Willingdon Community School is unable to cover the full costs of the qualification and we would require some parental contribution, particularly towards the Expedition. When completing the Expedition, students are required to camp overnight and hire specific equipment. We would also require the assistance of qualified assessors and insurance during the Expedition. **A second payment of £49.50 per student to cover the Expedition is required by Friday 10th May 2024. This is also accessible via ParentPay and can be paid at any time in advance.**

We have provisionally booked the Expedition to take place on the following dates, and request that you save these dates in order to allow your child to complete the qualification:

- **Thursday 6th and Friday 7th June 2024 (camping at Willingdon Community School)**

Further details of the expedition will be shared nearer the dates mentioned.

In order to secure child's place on the DofE Bronze Award qualification, please make payment via ParentPay ASAP. The option to make payment is accessible on ParentPay from receipt of this letter. Receiving payment reserves the place and currently we have a maximum of 56 places available for this academic year.

I very much look forward to supporting the students through the course and am grateful for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding the DofE qualification.

Kind regards,

Mr Tom Cain
Head of Year 8
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