

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh

We are pleased to inform you that we are now able to offer the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award to our Year 9 students. The Duke of Edinburgh is a highly regarded award that recognises the commitment that young people dedicate to all sorts of activities outside of their regular school life. The award comprises four sections and students need to complete all sections to achieve the Bronze Award.

1. Skills/ 2. Physical / 3. Volunteering/ 4. Expedition

The total cost of the Bronze Award is £321.50 (based on a minimum cohort of 20 students) which covers the cost of enrolment and the expedition. The initial enrolment payment of £96.50 needs to be paid on ParentPay by **Monday 13th April 2026**. This deposit payment is **non-refundable** and will secure the outdoor provider that is facilitating the expedition taking place in June 2026. Three further instalments are due as below though you are quite welcome to pay in full at any time. If you should need to discuss additional instalments, or if you believe that your child may be entitled to some funding support if they are Pupil Premium registered, for example, please email

collins@willingdonschool.org.uk

- Deposit - £96.50 – 13/04/2026
- 1st instalment £75.00 – 30/04/2026
- 2nd instalment £75.00 – 15/05/2026
- 3rd instalment £75.00 – 01/06/2026

Duke of Edinburgh enrichment club will be held on Thursdays every week in G2 from 3-4pm. During this time, they will be fully supported through the completion of the DofE portal and receive further information on what evidence to use and how to upload it.

The expedition phase of the award is two days hiking different routes and camping overnight at Blackland Farm. Students will not be able to complete the expedition phase of this course if any overdue payments are outstanding. Once the deposit is received, a google form will be sent out to collect the relevant permissions for each student.

Arrangements for the Expedition: Monday 1st - Tuesday 2nd June 2026

- 8.30am - parents/carers drop their child off at Blackland Farm
- 9.00am – start of the 2-day expedition phase, led by staff at Blackland Farm then overnight camping.
- 4.00pm, *Tuesday 2nd June* – students to be collected from Blackland Farm by parents/carers. Students will only be allowed to leave the site once all their kit is returned and checked off, followed by a debrief with their assessor./

For further information on the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award and to ensure that you are aware of the level of commitment for your child, please visit <https://www.dofe.org/>

If you have any queries or questions, please email collins@willingdonschool.org.uk. Students are welcome to drop in with any questions to G2 any lunchtime.

Mrs L Collins
D of E Co-ordinator