

Duke of Edinburgh Award Newsletter Update

Start Up

The Welcome Packs for all levels for this year's enrolments have arrived. We will give them out before Christmas so students have time to consider their ideas over the festive break. The packs for Year 9- Bronze award will be issued on Tuesday 4th December with the Silver and Gold packs on Tuesday 11th December after school. The DofE account details will be issued at the same time.

Gold Award Presentation (GAP)

Students who successfully complete the Gold award are invited to St James's Palace or Buckingham Palace to be presented with their Certificate, badge or brooch at a GAP. Because of the number of award holders the waiting list for presentations is approximately 12 months from completion and sign off at the school. This time can be reduced if Gold participants complete the GAP Information part of their DofE Gold record early. All current Gold award participants are asked to review and complete this part of their record thus saving time and perhaps giving you and parents an earlier presentation.

Expedition Dates for 2019

Here are the dates for the planned 2019 expeditions:

Bronze Award for Year 9 - practice either 29th and 30th March or 17th and 18th May and assessed expeditions either 14th, 15th or 28th and 29th June.

Silver Award for Year 10 – practice 8th, 9th and 10th March and assessed 21st, 22nd, 23rd June.

Gold Award for Year 12 – practice 15th, 16th, 17th March and assessed either 1st to 5th July.

Year 13 Gold Group will be on leave until July 2020 after final A level exams. The Year 12 Gold candidates will need to consider early their potential locations for the assessed expedition and decide early next year if this is to be UK based or overseas. The overseas expedition will require considerably more organisation, preparation, planning and cost more.

Expedition Kit and Equipment

All new candidates registering to the scheme will receive Welcome Packs and a DofE Discount card that can be used across five outdoor retailers. The card will be issued once home address details have been populated on the individual DofE accounts. A recommended list of expedition items is at this link and some of these items will make suitable Christmas gifts:

<https://www.dofe.org/shopping/dofe-expedition-kit-list/>

Achievers Clothing Range

There is a range of clothing available to students who have successfully completed each level of the award. It is called the Achievers Range and includes Polo shirts in a range of colours all with the DofE cypher and then the award attained plus the candidate's name. The link is <https://www.dofe.org/shopping/dofe-clothing/>. All purchases of DofE clothing include a donation to the charity helping fund the future.

Contact with the D of E Team.

Miss Lesslie and Mr Carroll of the DofE team will be at Beechen Cliff School all day on Fridays at the Humanities Pavilion on Tuesday and Wednesday lunchtime and afternoons. Questions about progress within the award or recording evidence on and using DofE can be raised then.

Presentation Evenings

Planning is in hand for a Presentation Evening on Wednesday 13th February 2019. Further details will be released after Christmas.

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