



Dear Parent/Carer

## **DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD**

Congratulations and well done to your child for taking on the big challenge of completing the renowned Duke of Edinburgh's Award this year. The award requires those taking part to complete **4 sections and will take no less than 6 months**. The sections are:

- ✓ **Skill** (learning a skill of your choice for one hour per week).
- ✓ **Physical** (participating in a physical activity of your choice for one hour per week)
- ✓ **Volunteering** (being involved in an activity that benefits others for one hour per week).
- ✓ **Expedition** (a full day of training in a small group with an Alfresco Adventures leader, and an assessed 2-day expedition). Catch up sessions will be held on areas of weakness, with Mrs Armstrong from our pastoral team, who is a qualified instructor.

Two of the first 3 sections must be completed over a period of **three months** and **one of them over six months**. Students will be assisted in their selection of appropriate activities and monitored then by teachers throughout the delivery of the award programme. Skills and physical activities that you already do outside of school lessons will most likely count and so these sections are often easy to complete. Participants will be expected to upload evidence onto their online D of E account for each section and they will be assessed by a member of staff or a suitably qualified assessor. Importantly, any activity chosen to be completed outside of school is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to verify their safety, and to agree to allow them to do it.

### **Pupils must attend the training session to complete the assessed expedition.**

Only pupils deemed safe to participate in the expedition will be permitted to go. A decision to withdraw a pupil from the expedition or send a pupil home can be taken at any time, if their behaviour suggests they would be a danger to themselves or others. Once the invoice has been paid to Alfresco Adventures for the training and then the Expedition, money will no longer be able to be refunded. They will still be able to achieve individual certificates from the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme for the other sections, but not the overall award.

- **Training Day in and around Bedale:**  
**Y9 Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021      9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.**  
**Y10 Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021      9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.**
- **Bronze Expedition in Reeth:**  
**Y9 Monday and Tuesday 5/6 July 2021 (Depart BHS Mon 8.30 / Return Tues 5.30pm)**  
**Y10 Saturday and Sunday 3/4 July 2021 (To be confirmed - Depart BHS Sat 8.30 / Return Sun 4.10pm)**  
The final payment is due on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

For the training day, we would like to mimic a real expedition day as closely as possible.

Pupils will need the following items (see me for help if you don't have something as I can loan out items):

1. Appropriate clothing for walking in any weather- no jeans
2. Good waterproof walking shoes/boots (you will be walking a good distance)
3. A waterproof coat (and trousers if possible)
4. A rucksack (6 still available to borrow)
5. A sleeping bag (available to borrow from Alfresco- just for experience of packing /setting up camp)
6. A sleeping mat (available to borrow from Alfresco- just for experience of packing/setting up camp)
7. Food for cooking a meal – to be planned as a group
8. A flask for drinking water
9. Plate/cup/spoon (cooking facilities provided)
10. Example of what you think you need in terms of clothing(in plastic bag) and toiletries, including sun screen.

Each group will be assigned an instructor from Alfresco Adventures. They are fully trained and qualified and will instruct their group on bag packing (weight/necessities!), navigation and route cards, countryside and D of E rules, setting up camp, cooking, and safety. Pupils will be hiking during this day and must be prepared for all weathers. Any questions, or concerns, please contact me at [wilsonc@bedalehighschool.org.uk](mailto:wilsonc@bedalehighschool.org.uk), or Mrs Drysdale [drysdalem@bedalehighschool.org.uk](mailto:drysdalem@bedalehighschool.org.uk) .

Yours sincerely  
Mrs C Wilson  
Duke of Edinburgh's Award