

21<sup>st</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is the world's leading achievement award for young people, and is highly regarded by universities, colleges and employers. It encourages young people to develop independence, commitment, leadership and teamwork through being involved in a personalised programme of activities.

The Academy fully supports the Award and recognises its unique value for developing skills and attributes in young people.

Your child recently had an assembly explaining the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at Bronze level. The Award is split into four sections; Volunteering, Physical, Skill, and Expedition.

It takes approximately six months to complete and requires regular commitment to various activities. Your child will need to find ways to fulfil the Volunteering, Physical and Skill sections of the award, while in the Academy we will focus on the Expedition Section. Members of staff in school will be happy to give advice and support to help students choose appropriate activities.

**The Award is very popular and places are limited. Total cost will be £50.00** (This will cover training, enrolment in the Award, staffing, insurance, transport and campsite fees for all the training and trips detailed below in the **Expedition Section**. If the cost will be an issue for you, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss support that we can offer.

### **Volunteering, Skill and Physical Section**

Please see the Duke of Edinburgh Award website: [www.dofe.org](http://www.dofe.org) for more information about each section. There is an initial enrolment form that will need to be completed before students register for the Award. Once this is completed they will be issued with a programme planner to help them plan their activities for the first three sections.

### **Expedition Section**

The Expedition section requires participants to undertake an assessed two- day backpacking and camping expedition. Before this, participants need to be trained and to take part in the Expedition. Before they will be allowed to take part in their qualifying expedition, participants will need to complete the first three parts of the award.

**After-school training** delivered by staff from Braunton Academy

**BRAUNTON SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMY TRUST**

**A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE, REGISTERED IN ENGLAND AND WALES, NUMBER 7989226 (AN EXEMPT CHARITY)**

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This will include training in skills such as:

- Camp craft
- First aid
- Navigation
- Observation and recording
- Emergency procedures
- Awareness of risk and health and safety procedures
- Country and Highway Codes

**Assessed/qualifying expedition:** two days. Over a weekend during the first half term of the Autumn term 2023.

Students will be expected to have their own equipment, whilst school can provide tents and cooking equipment, and a limited number of individual items (sleeping bags and rucksacks). There is a discount available in many outdoor retailers for Duke of Edinburgh Award participants. Please do contact me if costs are a concern as the school is able to offer financial assistance in some circumstances.

If your child wants to take part in the Award, please return the following on ParentMail **by 9.00 am on Monday 6th March 2023.**

- Payment £50.00 to cover the cost of registration and the expedition
- DofE Participant Initial Enrolment Form

The Duke of Edinburgh Award website has more details on the Award, and what each section involves. Please encourage your child to have a look at the website as they plan what they might do.

There will be further information about the Award at the upcoming Year 9 Options Evening on Wednesday 22nd February **from 6.00-7.30 pm**, so please come and have a chat if you have any questions, or email me: [ddiversedge@braunton.academy](mailto:ddiversedge@braunton.academy)

Yours faithfully

Mr D Liversedge, DofE Manager