

Headteacher: Mr D. Whales | Chair of Governors: Mr A. Brown

7th November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted to let you know that we are about to launch the **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award** (DofE). As the DofE Manager for Ken Stimpson Academy, I wanted to write to you to let you know more about what this is and what is involved.

Why do DofE?

Doing the DofE is a brilliant way for your child to discover just how much they are capable of. It gives students the chance to make new friends, follow their passions, learn new skills and make a difference in our community. Achieving a DofE Award is a great way to impress employers too. It also helps students to see themselves differently and gain a new level of confidence. We always say that after taking on your DofE, you know that whatever life throws at you, you're ready to deal with it. The DofE is non-competitive and a powerful way for every student to build belief in themselves, whatever their background, interests and abilities.

How it works?

To achieve their Award, your child will need to complete four sections – Volunteering, Physical, Skills and the Expedition. Students can choose what they would like to do for the first three sections, and we will provide all the guidance and support they need.

The Expedition involves spending two days and one night in Walesby Forest, Newark, Nottinghamshire. We provide comprehensive training which will be delivered by external provider Premier Expeditions to ensure everyone is fully prepared and has the best possible experience.

Next steps?

We hope lots of our students will take this opportunity to get involved with DofE. Currently the award has space for up to 14 students in Year 10. The spaces will be offered on a first come first serve basis. The cost is £110 per student and covers travel as well as other training and resources which are listed below. If your child is interested in taking part but the cost is prohibitive, please do speak to me as we may be able to arrange some level of financial support in some cases.

If being part of this exciting opportunity to do the DofE is something of interest to you and your child, then please email me at the following E.Tarjanyi@kenstimpson.org.uk by no later Friday 22nd November. We are also asking for a 10% deposit to secure your place. The £11 can be paid on ParentPay and the remainder will be due in February 2025

What does the cost cover?

- Bronze registration fee
- 1 Day intensive training with Premier Expeditions
- 2 Day qualifying expedition with Premier Expeditions
- Student kit bag which includes; Rucksack, rucksack liner, waterproof rucksack roll mat, sleeping bag, headtorch, dry bag, survival bag, emergency whistle, thermal blanket, plate

and cutlery. (These are all property of Ken Stimpson and must be returned at the end of the expedition)

What else will I need?

- Appropriate clothing including walking boots and waterproofs
- Food for the expedition

Once students have been selected further detailed information will be provided to students and to parents. If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to contact me. The DofE website <https://www.dofe.org> also has a lot of useful information too.

Finally, I would like to thank you for taking the time to read this letter and I hope you'll agree that the DofE is the perfect way for your child to feel ready for anything.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs E Tarjanyi

Duke of Edinburgh Manager