

12 October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award 2023**

Your child has expressed an interest in undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Gold level.

Students who have undertaken their Silver Award do not have to complete it before enrolling for their Gold Award and they may continue with the activities that they undertook for that Award. It is not a requirement that students should have done either their Silver or Bronze; they can go straight to Gold. More information can be found at <a href="http://www.dofe.org/">http://www.dofe.org/</a>. Any student who did not partake in the Silver Award will be able to enrol for the Gold Award but will be expected to be confident at map reading and navigation before the expedition; additional training with the school may be necessary. The initial charge for enrolling on the Award is £35.00 which is non-refundable. This provides for the enrolment pack, record book and access to <a href="http://www.edofe.org">www.edofe.org</a>.

The school does not run the Gold Expeditions but uses an outside provider, Peak Expeditions, for this purpose. The Practice Expedition section of the Award will take place from 2-5 July 2023 in the Peak District. The Gold Final Expedition will take place from 26 - 30 September 2023 in the Yorkshire Dales. Attendance at both is mandatory. If students do not undertake their expeditions with the school, they will have until their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday to achieve their Gold Award; a number of Universities and other Accredited Activity Providers offer expedition opportunities. In addition to the Expeditions, there will be a 2-day training session at school (not staying the night) over the weekend of 18 - 19 March 2023. This training session is also mandatory.

The overall cost for the expeditions and training will be £635. Payment can be made either in full or in three instalments but the registration fee of £35.00 and the first instalment of £200 are due now. The following two instalments of £200 each will become due on 1 November and 27 January. Please make your payment via WisePay (under Clubs and Activities) and complete the reply slip here along with the medical form. There is also a Peak Activity consent form which can be found on Google Classroom, please ensure this is completed as a printed document and is given to Mr Holloway. It may be possible for students to apply to Local Councillors and other bodies to seek contributions toward the cost of undertaking the Gold Award.

By paying, you are giving permission for your child to take part in the above activities. Please advise the school office of any changes in health or medical conditions and emergency contact telephone numbers.

Any behaviour on any activity connected with the Award which is considered to be inappropriate will result in the student being rejected from the scheme without refund.

Please be aware that as the school makes staged payments to Peak Expeditions; should a student drop out before completing the Expedition, any reimbursement will be subject to the repayment policy of Peak Expeditions.

Yours sincerely

Mal Well

Mark Holloway Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator



