

27 June 2025

Dear Students and Parents/Carers

### Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award 2025-2026

Parmiter's offers students the opportunity to undertake the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Bronze level during Years 9 and 10. We would like to invite all students in Year 9 to take part in this award and applications should be submitted by **Monday 7 July 2025**. This will enable us to complete the registration and administration process and allow students time to complete their sections by the school deadlines detailed below. **Applications received after this date will be held back and students will have to join next year's cohort.**

This is a four section award consisting of:

- Volunteering (helping in the community with a **Not-For-Profit** organisation)
- Skills (covering almost any hobby/interest but EXCLUDING those connected with a physical activity)
- Physical Recreation (sport, dance and fitness, etc.)
- Expedition.

It usually takes a participant about 12 months to complete a Bronze Award. Further information can be found at <https://www.dofe.org/>.

An expedition for the Award is arranged by the school each summer, using suitably qualified staff, in order to keep costs down for the participants. If your child were to do this section externally, then it would cost significantly more. It is only possible to provide this opportunity because a significant number of staff and parent/carer volunteers are willing to give up their own time. In the interests of enhancing the self-reliance aspect of the Award, it should be recognised that supervision is kept to a minimum after initial training. Should parents or carers wish to help with the expedition next year, please contact us via [DofE@parmiters.herts.sch.uk](mailto:DofE@parmiters.herts.sch.uk).

Once students have successfully completed their first three sections, they will be invited to take part in that year's expedition and we will send out the necessary information.

**The overall cost for a student to undertake the Bronze Award through the school, including expedition, is £200.** Payment can be made via [WisePay](#) (under Clubs & Activities) on or before **Monday 7 July 2025** or in two instalments, the first instalment of £100 being due by Monday 7 July and the second by Friday 5 September 2025. There is the possibility of financial assistance in case of hardship - please contact us early if you wish to be considered for such assistance. Please note that there is an initial charge of £30 for enrolling on the award, which is non-refundable under any circumstances, as it is paid to Herts CC in order to enrol the student and cover their administrative costs. This amount is included in the total cost shown above. Should a student drop out of the Award before completion, they may be reimbursed for any unspent monies but an overall charge of £50 will be debited to cover the above payment and the school's associated administration. Please login to [WisePay](#) at any time to see what payments are outstanding for your child. Should any monies remain outstanding, students will not be allowed to continue with their training or undertake the expeditions.

In order to register participants, we must have each student's email address - the address that they commonly use - together with their mobile telephone number and full name and date of birth.

In addition, the medical form must be completed for each student. This will be used by the school for **ALL** training and expeditions. Should there be any changes to the information disclosed, it is imperative that the school be notified in writing. Students are responsible for bringing and administering their own medication.

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Unfortunately, there are only a limited number of places available and these will be allocated in the order that applications are received, provided all information has been correctly completed. Students accepted onto the Award will be expected to attend all meetings, courses and practices. If your child is not successful in their application, they will still have the opportunity to apply to join the Silver and Gold Awards in later years. A reserve list will be maintained for the Bronze Award, should any participant drop out.

Behaviour on any activity connected with the Award which is considered to be inappropriate will result in the student being ejected from the Award without refund. Parents/carers will be expected to immediately pick up the student from the relevant venue.

Please note that students must have registered using eDofE and commenced each of their three sections (excluding the Expedition section) by the end of September 2025, or they will not be allowed to proceed with the Award. Once completed, each section must be signed by an assessor and sent through for approval using eDofE by Thursday 30 April 2026, or students will not be invited to attend the Practice or Final expeditions.

It is very important that parents, carers and students realise that students will need to be self-motivated to complete the award successfully; the whole ethos of the Award is that students should take responsibility for themselves and become more independent. To that end, they should organise and manage the completion of their own sections and organise their expeditions themselves, identifying any items that need to be purchased and who is responsible for bringing any shared kit. The three sections must be completed before being permitted to attend the Expedition.

A class has been set up in Google Classroom and all students have been invited to join. This will be the primary method of communication for students, so they **MUST** check for messages regularly. **Please complete the medical and student information form linked at the end of this letter, as soon as possible and by Monday 7 July at the latest. Please do not submit paper copies of documents.** If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us ([DofE@parmiters.herts.sch.uk](mailto:DofE@parmiters.herts.sch.uk)) or direct your child to ask for themselves.

Students have attended an Assembly and been shown a presentation on doing their Award at Parmiter's. There is a Participant Guide on Google Classroom, which explains the matters that must be dealt with, and a copy of the assembly slide presentation. An important Training Manual is also on Google Classroom and there is a huge amount of information on the DofE website.

If a student is in a position to take part in the expedition next year, the dates are as follows:

- 6 - 7 June - Practice Expedition
- 2 - 3 July - Final Expedition

Please note that all events are compulsory and that there will also be a number of training afternoons following school, which are also mandatory. It is important to note that all students **MUST** attend school the day following an expedition, unless they have a note from a doctor excusing them.

Yours sincerely

Parmiters DofE team

[Medical and Student Information Form](#)