

9 July 2026

Dear Students and Parents/Carers

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award 2026-2027

Parmiter's offers students the opportunity to undertake the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Bronze level during Years 9 and 10. We invite all students in Year 9 to take part in this award by [applying here](#). Applications should be submitted by **Friday 11 September 2026**. 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 are unlikely to be accepted unless there are extenuating circumstances.**

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.

Students who have completed the first three sections of the award (Volunteering, Skills and Physical) by Wednesday 31st March 2027 will be awarded the Bronze Certificate of Achievement. They will then be invited to join the expedition phase to gain the full Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. **Students will not be permitted to join the expedition phase and therefore achieve the full DofE Bronze Award if they have not completed their first three sections by the deadline.**

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

- 22 and 23 May 2027 - Practice Expedition. Students MUST attend school the day following an expedition, unless they have a note from a doctor excusing them, in order to be eligible for the Final Expedition
- 1 and 2 July - Final Expedition.

The expedition for the Award is arranged by the school each summer, using suitably qualified staff and a team of volunteers. 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. If we do not have sufficient volunteers to meet the adult to child ratio levels, it will not be possible for every child to attend. In that case, preference will be given to children whose parents assist in a volunteer capacity. Should parents or carers wish to help with the expedition next year, please contact us via DofE@parmiters.herts.sch.uk.

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 Trip & Visits) on or before **Friday 11 September 2026** or in two instalments, the first instalment of £100 being due by 11 September and the second by Friday 30 October 2026. There is the possibility of financial assistance in case of hardship, so please contact Mr Clark (p.clark@parmiters.herts.sch.uk) if you wish to be considered for such assistance. 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

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debited to cover the registration costs and the associated administration. Should any monies remain outstanding, students will not be allowed to continue with their training or undertake the expeditions.

Unfortunately, there are only a limited number of places available. Should there be an oversubscription of applications, places are allocated at the discretion of the school and not on a first come, first served basis. We regret that, should a place not be offered to your child, no discussion will be entered into as to why that decision has been made.

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 October 2026, or they will not be allowed to proceed with the Award.

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 sections with their assessors and organise their expeditions themselves, identifying any items that need to be purchased and who is responsible for bringing any shared kit.

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.

Finally, there will be an information meeting for parents and carers of students who have enrolled on Tuesday 6 October 2026. However, if you have any questions in advance, please do not hesitate to contact us (dofe@parmiters.herts.sch.uk) or direct your child to ask for themselves.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Clark
on behalf of the Parmiter's DofE team

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