

7 October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award 2026-2027

Parmiter's School offers students the opportunity to undertake the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award during Years 12 and 13. This is a five section award consisting of:

- Volunteering (helping a charity or NOT for profit making enterprise)
- Skills (covering almost any hobby/interest but NOT sport)
- Physical Recreation (sport, dance or fitness)
- Residential (5-days, 4-nights activity spent away from home with other people you haven't met previously)
- Expedition.

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 section activities that they undertook for that Award. It is not a requirement that students have previously completed either their Silver or Bronze awards; they can go straight to Gold. Further information about the Gold Award requirements can be found at <http://www.dofe.org/>.

The school does not run the Gold Expeditions but uses an outside provider, Pau Expeditions, for this purpose. The Gold Practice Expedition will take place from **Sunday 27 to Wednesday 30 June 2027** in the Peak District. The Gold Final Expedition will take place from **Tuesday 14 to Saturday 18 September 2027** in the Yorkshire Dales. Attendance at both is mandatory. If a student does not complete their expeditions with the school, they will have until their 25th birthday to achieve their Gold Award; a number of universities and other accredited activity providers also offer expedition opportunities if a student wishes to complete their award after they have left Parmiter's. In addition to the Expeditions, there will be a 2-day training session at school (not staying the night) over the weekend of **Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 March 2027**. This training session is also mandatory.

The overall cost for the Gold Award registration, training and expeditions is £775. To enrol on the Gold Award an initial deposit of £275 is due now, of which £50 is a non-refundable registration fee which includes the enrolment pack and access to www.edofe.org. Two subsequent instalments of **£250** each will be due on **Monday 30 November 2026** and **Sunday 31 January 2027**. Please make your deposit payment via [WisePay](#) (under Trips and Visits) and complete the [medical form](#) and [Pau Expeditions participant consent form](#). The completed Pau Expeditions consent form should be uploaded to the Gold DofE Google Classroom by the participant.

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

Any behaviour, on any activity connected with the Gold 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 Pau Expeditions, should a student drop out before completing the Expedition, any reimbursement will be subject to the repayment policy of Pau Expeditions.

Yours sincerely



Mr B Cummings
Gold Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator

Headteacher: Mr A Smith NPQH, MPhil (Cantab), FCCT, FRSA

High Elms Lane, Garston, Herts WD25 0UU

admin@parmiters.herts.sch.uk | www.parmiters.herts.sch.uk | 01923 671424 | Thomas Parmiter Sports Centre 01923 682805