



Our ref: TRA/DofE

September 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Duke of Edinburgh Award at Oldbury Wells School

At Oldbury Wells, we are proud to offer students the chance to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards. As a licenced organisation, we can offer students the opportunity to discover new interests and talents, develop essential life skills and earn a respected qualification that will help them in their future careers by completing either the Bronze or Silver Award as an extracurricular activity.

Through a DofE programme young people have fun, make friends, improve their self-esteem, and build confidence. They gain essential skills and attributes for work and life such as resilience, problem-solving and team-working, whilst enhancing CVs, university, and job applications. Top employers recognise the work-ready skills Award holders bring to their business.

Yr9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh 2022/2023

In Year 9, students can enrol and complete the Bronze DofE Award. To achieve the Award, students must complete four sections, including a 2 day/1 night expedition, usually completed around Wenlock Edge. We are offering students the opportunity to enrol on the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award with us this year at Oldbury Wells and complete the full Award.

The four sections that are required for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award are:

- 1) **Physical section*** – participants select their own physical activity to complete for at least an hour each week. This can be something they already do or be something new. These can be team sports, individual activities or training for specific physical challenges.
- 2) **Skills section*** – participants should spend least an hour each week developing a skill of their choice. This can be something they already do or be something new but should be something students can show progression doing. We often see a diverse range of “skills”, with common choices being learning musical instruments, developing art/photography/writing/cooking skills, completing online courses such as first aid or a new learning a new language.
- 3) **Volunteering section*** – participants can select their own volunteering activity to complete for at least an hour each week. This could involve individual fundraising activities or be a contribution of help/support towards a non-profit organisation.

Aspire • Enjoy • Achieve



CEO: Mrs Sarah Godden
T: 01746 760509
c/o: Oldbury Wells School

Headteacher: Mr Lee Tristham
Oldbury Wells, Bridgnorth
Shropshire, WV16 5JD

01746 765454
school@oldburywells.com



- 4) **Expedition section** – The expedition section is the final, but often the most enjoyable and memorable, part of the Bronze Award. Participants will plan, prepare for and complete a 2day/1night expedition. Training is provided in three compulsory after school sessions in Spring term. The expeditions are completed in groups of 4-7, and students will carry their own equipment and investigate an aim as they complete their journey. Travel from school will be provided and participants will stay on a secure campsite. Participants will be provided with tents, camping stoves and other key equipment. Participants should provide their own walking boots, food and clothing. Rucksacks can also be borrowed if required.

*Two of these sections must be completed for 3 months and one for 6 months. Students should consider the accessibility of volunteering/physical/skills activities, as these should be completed on a regular basis each week.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a registered charity, funded by donations, participation places and licences. To enrol of the Bronze Award through Oldbury Wells, we ask for a deposit of £40 via Parent Pay. This covers enrolment onto the Award, access to the Duke of Edinburgh portal eDofE and guidance through completing the first three sections of the Award. It also allows us to cover in school costs to keep the DofE running. The expedition section will require 2 further payments of £40 each spread across the school year (January and March). Please speak to either myself or Miss Waldron if funding causes concern. **The total cost of the award is £120.**

If interested in completing the Award, students should complete the attached application and return it to either Miss Ransom or Ms Waldron by Friday 7th October. The £40 deposit can be made on ParentPay once students have been accepted onto the Award and should be paid by 14th October. We intend to accept all students who apply by the deadline, unless numbers of applicants are exceedingly high.

Please note: The DofE Award required commitment, independence, and organisation from students, so we are being strict on the deadline for applications. Any students handing in applications after 7th October without good reason will be added to a reserve list and may not be accepted onto the Award.

Any questions regarding the Bronze Award, please email Miss Ransom (tegan.ransom@oldburywells.com). I look forward to working with this new Year 9 cohort to complete their Bronze Awards.

Kind regards,



Miss Tegan Ransom
Duke of Edinburgh Manager at Oldbury Wells School