



Dear Parent

## **Enrolment for the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award at Tupton Hall – 2020**

Your child has expressed an interest in enrolling for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Tupton Hall. Before you make a commitment and payment on their behalf, we would like to tell you a about the D of E at Tupton Hall and what it entails for students and for parents.

The Award has three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold. The official starting age for **Bronze** is 14, but we can enrol students whose 14<sup>th</sup> birthday is during Year 9 at school. We can, therefore train and prepare students during Year 9.

For a Bronze Award, four sections must be completed: **Volunteering; Skill, Physical and Expedition**. The first three sections are pursued for at least three months each, with one chosen for an extra 3 months. (i.e. 3-3-6 or 3-6-3 etc.) Participants can select from a wide range of activities within these three sections. The best place to find specific details is on the D of E website: [www.DofE.org/](http://www.DofE.org/)

The fourth section, **Expedition**, requires Bronze participants to successfully complete **two** expeditions. First is the practice then, later, the **Qualifying** expedition. At Bronze level we usually use the Peak District. Participants have to be out for two days and one night, carrying all they need to walk, navigate, camp and be "independent" during that time. Participants have to be in groups of between 4 - 7 members. Sometime later they must give a "presentation" based on their expedition experiences. This could be during an assembly.

For the Bronze and Silver expeditions it is usual for parents to take participants to the start point (Friday or Saturday morning) and to collect them at the end (Saturday or Sunday afternoon). We are very grateful for parents' help with this. We only use mini-buses for Gold (or occasionally Silver) expeditions further afield: Yorkshire, The Lake District or North Wales.

To be successful at D of E requires the participant to be able to work at it consistently over the full time period as many find they have other demands on their time. Successful D of E participants need determination and perseverance. They will need to be well organised and good at taking the initiative. A good level of physical fitness is also advantageous for the expeditions. High standards of behaviour and maturity are essential.

Close communication with participants and parents is also very important. We strive to keep everyone informed, however in such a large school communication can be difficult. Mr Parfitt is only in school for a few hours each week, so mostly utilises e-mail to communicate with participants and parents. This allows us to answer questions as they arise. Students school emails will be used to ensure staff and students are safeguarded at all times. With this in mind, if you have any questions now, please feel free to contact him: [IZParfitt@googlemail.com](mailto:IZParfitt@googlemail.com) Please be aware that, during expeditions, Mr Parfitt will collect participants' mobile phone numbers and issue his own number, for emergency contact purposes – unless parents specifically object to this procedure.

(continued...)



## Costs:

This year we are again offering a basic “package price” rather than separate charges for every aspect. The basic cost will be £70. This includes the following:

- Enrolment in the Award scheme + access to eD of E
- Insurance during expeditions and other official D of E activities
- An opportunity to attend any navigation training day walks that we can organise
- A “Technical” T-shirt suitable for expedition use and in their “group colour”

## The above basic cost does NOT include:

- The Practice Expedition, which is usually in the Peak District. The cost varies from £25 - £30
- The Qualifying Expedition, again in the Peak District. The cost is usually around £30 - £35.

Expedition costs include: campsite fees, fuel for stoves, fees for supervisors and assessors.

If, after enrolment, a participant chooses to opt out of D of E or if behaviour or attitude are not of a sufficiently high standard and a participant is asked to leave, a full refund may not be possible.

Please discuss all the above issues with your child and if you wish to continue then complete the form below and return it with the correct payment, paid for via the ParentPay system so your child should not bring money into school. All parents should now have an account.

We hope we have covered all necessary issues and likely questions. Feel free to contact us if you have any other queries. Please complete and return the attached slip.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Parfitt  
D of E Co-ordinator

Mr Carl Sinclair  
D of E Manager

(Form continues overleaf)



**Tupton Hall Bronze D of E Enrolment 2020**

Please read and discuss all the information in the attached letter before signing and returning this slip.

I/we have read the D of E enrolment letter and **accept the contents**. I/we would like our son/daughter to enrol for the 2020 Bronze D of E programme at Tupton Hall School.

Student's Name.....

Form: .....

Parent's Name

**(PRINT)**: .....

Parent's

Signature: .....

Date: .....

School e-mail address:

.....

(Please write clearly or **print**)