Friday 17 October

Dear Parent / Carer,

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Programme 2025-26

This is just a final reminder that students wishing to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award are required to be registered via the ParentPay portal by **24 October 2025** and pay the registration fee of £50, which is non-refundable. This fee includes the cost of registering the student with the DofE, purchasing their Bronze DofE Participant handbook, T-shirt and associated school license fee. There will be additional costs involved whilst completing the award, all of which are outlined below. Please be aware that students will not be onboarded to the eDofE system, which is where they will log their activities, until after 24 October as all students need to be uploaded at the same time. Following this, if you have signed your child up, they will receive an email to their school email address with their log in details.

This award is an extra-curricular activity; students on the award must be willing to give up a large proportion of their own time to attend training sessions and complete all components listed below. The award will take a minimum of six months to complete, and will challenge the mental, physical, and social capability of each individual.

The course consists of four blocks of activity, completed for a minimum of one hour per week, over consecutive weeks. All four blocks must be completed successfully and evidenced before the award is accredited. The sections, methods, and approximate costs involved are listed below.

1. Physical

An activity that involves a sport or physically exerting activity. For example, hockey, dance, rock climbing, football, swimming, yoga. This could be an activity students already participate in outside of school, or they can try something new.

2. Skill

The skill component can incorporate a variety of activities. These can include leadership, creative arts, and performing arts, care of animals, cookery, music, life skills, media, science and the natural world.

3. Volunteering

Students have two options available to them regarding this section. Students can independently organise to attend a local organisation, club, group, or charity in the community, and offer their services as a volunteer. Students may also volunteer to support extra-curricular clubs run within school.

If you have any queries about what sorts of activities your child could do for the above, please go to https://www.dofe.org/do/parents/ or https://www.dofe.org/do/parents/ or https://www.dofe.org/do/activities/

4. Qualifying Expedition

The qualifying expedition will involve a full two days, including an overnight camping stay in the Cotswolds. The students will also complete a day's offsite navigation training and overnight stay at school (weather dependent) on **16 - 17 May 2026** – this will also incorporate training that is necessary for the expedition section and so is therefore compulsory. The qualifying expedition is assessed by qualified DofE assessors. There will be a cost involved with this section and this will be a further £125.00. The qualifying expedition will take place on **3 - 4 July 2026**. Additional equipment, clothing, walking boots, and food costs should also

















be taken into account when planning for this. The school does supply much of the equipment and that is incorporated into the cost but there will be a need to have some kit and participants' food supplied by home. Further details of this were shared on the Parental Engagement Evening and can be asked for upon request.

For those students who attract Pupil Premium, there is potentially some limited funding on a discretionary, individual needs basis. Please contact lgreenland@northleamington.co.uk for further information. Please be aware that any equipment supplied on this discretionary basis would remain the property of NLS for future students to access.

If you would like your child to participate in The Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award, you will need to complete all details on ParentPay no later than Friday 24 October 2025 with a £50 initial payment also paid by that time via ParentPay (www.parentpay.com) - students cannot be registered and begin logging their award without prior payment of the registration fee, but if they are keen, they can begin the volunteering, physical and skills' sections of their award immediately and can back date their efforts once registered and online.

There is a total cost of £175: £50 registration fee by October 24; £75 by January 31 and £50 by March 31. Please note that once you have committed, all deposits and monies paid will be non-refundable should your child withdraw.

If you have any questions about DofE, please feel free to contact me using the below details.

Yours faithfully,

Mr James Barrett DofE Manager

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