



**BIDDULPH
HIGH
SCHOOL**



Potteries Educational Trust Head Office
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ST8 7AR

Headteacher: **Mr S P Ascroft BSc (Hons) MA NPQH**

6 October 2020

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE PERSON WITH PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Re: Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Your son/daughter has expressed a wish to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme which we are running at school during the coming year. This Award Scheme aims to positively impact upon young people's lives helping their personal development and employability. Students in Year 9 can enter at Bronze level. Students in Years 10 and 11 can enter the Bronze or Silver award whilst students in Years 12 and 13 can enter at Bronze, Silver or Gold level.

Each award level requires the students to complete 4 different sections which are volunteering, physical, skill and expedition with an extra residential section for the Gold award. Each section of the Bronze award needs a minimum of 3 months' commitment with a further 3 months added to one of the sections. This commitment increases as the level of award increases. Each section of the Silver award needs a minimum of 3 months with 3 extra months added to the Volunteering and one other section (Those starting directly on Silver must complete 12 months on one of the longer sections). Each Gold section will be a minimum of 6 months with the volunteering and one other section taking 12 months. (Those starting direct on Gold must complete 18 months on one of the longer sections). Gold students also need to complete a residential section, where they stay away from home for a period of 5 days and 4 nights completing a charitable or learning experience.

The skill, volunteering and physical sections will be completed over the course of the year/two years (Gold) by the student once he/she has decided upon what they are doing. The students will complete 2 expeditions consisting of 2 (Bronze), 3 (Silver) or 4 (Gold) days walking with 1, 2 or 3 nights camping at approved campsites.

To ensure the students are as prepared for this as possible they must attend a weekly training session in preparation for this. This will include navigation and camp craft skills, safety information and first aid training. Failure to attend these sessions will result in the student being unable to attend the expedition section of the award.

The cost per student will be £130 for Bronze and £160 for Silver, those students taking the Gold award will pay for each training session and expedition separately but the cost in total should not exceed £250 in total and depending on numbers may be less than this, the initial payment will be £30. This cost includes a sign-up fee including a log book and on line account, insurance, expedition and staffing costs and certification. Payment needs to be made via Parent Pay and unfortunately we will be unable to make any refunds once payment has been made.



If you would like any more information about the Award Scheme or any of the sections, I will be holding a short meeting via the Zoom platform on the evening of the Monday 19 October at 7.00 pm. Please follow this link to access this meeting

Topic	DofE Parent's Meeting
Time	Oct 19, 2020 07:00 PM London
Join Zoom Meeting	https://zoom.us/j/93248518323?pwd=cjVGRkx5dFlvTUUpPVnBjcEdkZHlBdz09
Meeting ID	932 4851 8323
Passcode	6icEGB

If you would like to sign your son/daughter up to DofE, please complete the following questionnaire on Microsoft Teams, either by following the link or scanning the QR code, so we can add DofE to your Parent Pay account. Please complete this form by Friday 23 October 2020.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DvwijTBsZE6gYuG_og2whT5OSKLw8VIFva9mh5-qz9UOEK1UKFJT1IZVUM3RTJBWldTWUE2UFIEUC4u

This is a fantastic opportunity for your son/daughter to gain a nationally recognised award and develop vital life skills. Please contact me at school with any concerns or queries you might have.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Ackerley
DofE Manager

Email: ackerley@biddulphhigh.co.uk

