

5th October 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

SILVER & GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD IMPORTANT UPDATE 2018-19

Further to the letter, we sent out last week there have been a few questions about how your son can sign up for Silver or Gold if he is still finishing off Bronze or Silver. I hope the explanation below will help clarify your questions:

1. Your son is currently signed up to Bronze and wants to start Silver:

As soon as your son has finished all the sections of his Bronze Award, except for the Expedition section which will be in May 2019, he can enrol and start the various sections of the Silver Award. He can also backdate the Silver sections to the beginning of this term, if his Bronze Volunteering, Physical and Skill sections were completed before this time.

2. Your son is currently signed up to Silver and wants to start Gold:

As soon as your son has finished all the sections of his Silver Award, except for the Expedition section which will be in July 2019, he can enrol and start the various sections of the Gold Award. However, he must be 16 to start it. He can also backdate the various Gold sections to his 16th Birthday, if his Silver Volunteering, Physical and Skill sections were complete before that time.

Incidentally, when your son enrolls on the Silver or Gold Award as outlined above he will notice on eDofE that the timelines will be longer as the system thinks he is a direct entrant. However, this will revert to the shorter time period, as soon as he has completed the expedition for that completed Award.

3. Deadlines this Friday:

The deadlines for Friday are only for new direct enrolments i.e. for those who have not completed a previous Award. For everyone else it will be as and when your son completes the last section of his Bronze or Silver Award.

Finally, as you may have noticed there is a clash with the Silver and Gold Qualifying Expeditions and the Barbados Cricket & Hockey tour. If your son is on that trip, he can do the Practice expedition with RGS and the Qualifying expedition may be organised through a DofE Approved Activity Provider (AAP), details of which can be found on the Opportunity Finder section of the DofE website. [Please click here](#)

Please note, RGS do not organise these expeditions with external companies and the organisation and cost is the responsibility of the participant/parents. If they are unable to co-ordinate their expedition with other RGS pupils, AAPs organise expeditions for anyone needing an opportunity to undertake their expedition by giving them the option to join other groups of DofE participants in the Summer holidays instead. Affected participants will only be required to pay for the Practice expedition organised through RGS, which will be 50 % of the total expedition fee.

Once again, I wish your son every success with the Award. In the meantime if you or your son require any more information or assistance towards his completing his previous award, please do not hesitate to contact me on crg@rgshw.com or Mrs Henry on sportsadmin@rgshw.com or both of us on **01494 551404**.

Yours sincerely,



C R Greenhough
DofE Manager