

2/10/2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

### **BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD**

Thank you to all those parents who joined us on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September for our virtual launch evening. We had over 100 families join us and it was great to speak to so many of you and answer questions. As promised I am sending some updated information along with the original launch details. The power point presentation from the evening is attached and I can also highly recommend the following video [Bronze I start your DofE - YouTube](#) for both parents and students.

**The Duke of Edinburgh's Award** - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is an integral part of the RGS journey for many students, beginning with their enrolment in the Bronze Award in Year 9.

DofE is the world's leading achievement award for young people, and is highly regarded by universities, colleges and employers. It encourages young people to develop independence, commitment, leadership and teamwork through being involved in a personalised programme of activities.

It will inspire your son to make a difference to the local community, learn new skills, become fitter through sport and expeditions and increase his confidence. The School fully supports the Award, recognizing its unique value for developing skills and attributes in RGS pupils.

#### **Places available for 2022/23 enrolment & cost**

125 places for Bronze – Enrolment cost £129

In order to enrol, please log on to Parent Pay and select the 'DofE Bronze 22/23 Enrolment Fee'. We will then set your son up with an [eDofE profile](#) where he will be able to add the details for his chosen activities. If you are interested, do have a look at the DofE Website and the [Bronze Welcome Pack](#) for further details.

In order to help support families, we have opted to reduce the initial payment required in order that students can confirm their place and split payments as needed.

We would not want any RGS parent to not consider this opportunity due to cost. If you would find this financially difficult, please contact me in strictest confidence, as there may be funding available to assist you. We are also happy to discuss payment options.

#### **Explanation of costs:**

- DofE Welcome Pack, eDofE account, certificate and badge (on successful completion)
- Cost of the staff running and administering the DofE award at RGS
- Licence fee to DofE South East Regional Office
- In school training sessions
- Dedicated in school support for the duration of your programme
- Maps and navigational equipment
- Access to group kit and camping equipment (tents, stoves, etc)
- School insurance
- Certificate and badge upon successful completion

### The following are not included:

- Cost of the expedition section
- Personal camping/trekking equipment (RGS has a supply of loan kit if required))
- Additional costs relating to completion of other sections of the Award.

### Expedition section;

- Bronze Training, Practice (2 days) & Qualifying Expeditions (2 days) £150-175\*
- **Provisional Expedition dates: (based in the Chiltern Hills)**  
Sat 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> March 2023      Training/Practice Expedition  
Sat 6<sup>th</sup> – Sun 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023      Qualifying Expedition

NB: Participants **must** successfully complete both the practice and qualifying expeditions to complete the section and achieve their Award.

### How to apply

1. Log into Parent Pay **before Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October**, look up either “DofE Bronze 22/23 Enrolment Fee’ and pay the Enrolment fee. **NB: If you are unable to pay online, please contact the Finance Office to pay by an alternative method.**
2. Your son can start any of his activities immediately (and we can back date to the start of this term). **It is essential that all activities are selected from the approved [DofE Programme Ideas List](#).** If an activity is listed under Physical, it cannot be used for Skills and vice versa. If you or your son are unsure about an activity he has selected, please contact [DofE@rgshw.com](mailto:DofE@rgshw.com) as soon as possible for clarification.
3. Welcome packs will be sent to you directly from DofE once you complete your eDofE registration, however, you can access Digital Welcome here [Bronze Welcome Pack](#).
4. On receipt of the enrolment fee, we will process your son’s application and he will receive an automated email to his RGSHW email address containing his eDofE login details. (*Please note that no refunds are available after the 14<sup>th</sup> October should your son chose to withdraw from the programme*)

If you require any more information in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us on [dofe@rgshw.com](mailto:dofe@rgshw.com).

Yours sincerely

**D Clatworthy**  
Director of Co-Curricular Education