

12th September 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

We wrote to you just before the summer break with information on the upcoming launch of the Bronze DofE 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.

We will be holding an information evening for parents and students on Thursday 29th Sep online starting at 6.30pm there will be a short presentation from myself & the Regional DofE Manager, followed by a Q&A session. Please confirm your attendance by completing this [form](#). [Click here to join the meeting](#)

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

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 they will be able to add the details for their 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 4th & Sun 5th March 2023 Training/Practice Expedition
Sat 6th – Sun 7th 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 14th Oct**, 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 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 14th Oct 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. We look forward to seeing you on the 29th

Yours sincerely

D Clatworthy
Director of Co-Curricular Education