



25th March 2025

Dear parent/carers

SUBJECT: Year 9 Introductory Letter to the DofE Bronze Award

Last term, your child was introduced to the **Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Bronze Award** in assembly and invited to take part.

The DofE scheme is highly regarded by colleges, universities and employers because young people who are successful in completing the awards programme have shown themselves to be committed and independent. It encourages teamwork, a greater sense of responsibility and the willingness to learn new skills and persevere.

The DofE award comprises four sections:

- Volunteering
- Physical
- Skills
- Expedition

The first three sections are intended to take three months each, with one of them continuing for 6 months.

The DofE group will meet regularly in school to monitor the progress in each section and offer advice and guidance. The final section, the expedition, will take place using fully qualified staff from [Peat Rigg Outdoor Training Centre](#) from Saturday 21st to Sunday 22nd June. We are able to provide tents and stoves for the pupils to use on their expedition, and we have a few rucksacks to lend out, but pupils will need their own pair of walking boots, a sleeping bag and a mat, and will need to bring their own food to cook for the expeditions. More detail will be provided to those who decide to take part. Transport to and from the Centre will be provided by the school minibus.

Each pupil will need to be highly motivated to achieve their bronze award, but it is also important for them to have your support, e.g. you may be able to help them secure a suitable place to volunteer for 3 months or support them in the development of their chosen skill or physical activity. They must also keep detailed records of their progress in all areas by way of an eDofE app, and it will also be very helpful if you 'encourage' them to keep on top of this.





RISEDALE
A family of learners

RISEDALE SCHOOL

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Cost

There is a substantially subsidised cost of £85 involved in joining the scheme at Risdale, which includes an eDofE account, limited personal accident insurance, and a certificate and badge upon approved achievement of their award. It also covers the cost of the training and assessment for the expedition at Peat Rigg Outdoor Training Centre.

If you would be happy for your child to take part in the scheme, I would be grateful if you could pay a minimum of £40 using [ParentPay](#) by 4th April, and £45 by the end of May. This will be added to ParentPay for all Year 9 shortly. If you do not wish your child to take part, please ignore this. **I urge you to discuss this with your child before signing them up for the award.**

Unfortunately we can only offer 12 places this year and these will be awarded on a first come first served basis.

When we have received the first payment, your child will receive information about logging in and beginning the award.

Nearer to the expedition dates, you will receive more information and you will be sent an email requesting that you complete a consent form on Evolve.

More information

If you or your child require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at hailwood.j@risedale.org.uk or visit the [DofE website](#).

Yours sincerely,

Jane Hailwood

(Senior Teacher, Head of Science Faculty & DofE Manager)

