

## LANCASTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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# Bronze at LRGs: Signing up

There is an opportunity for your son to begin The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme through the school. The Award aims to stimulate the enthusiasms and energies of young people by presenting them with a challenging programme of activities. The essence of the Award is to provide a "challenge to the individual" and not simply another competition in life where success is another person's comparative failure. We hope that the process of participation in the programme leads to personal development and new, well-earned confidence.

The Award has three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold. Our aim at the school is for pupils to complete their Bronze Award during year 10, the Silver Award during their year 11 and their Gold Award in the 6th form. The Award demands persistence and commitment and cannot be completed in a short burst of enthusiasm. *'It is a marathon not a sprint!'* Due to the popularity of the award at school, we can only accept new boys to the school directly at Silver and Gold level, so if your son would like to take part, this is their opportunity.

At each level there are four sections to be completed; Volunteering, Expedition, Skill and Physical. Your son's achievements in each section are recorded in his own personal record and on the eDofE website. Details of the requirements for each section are available through the Award website (<http://www.dofe.org/>).

With ever increasing interest in the scheme, we have to outsource our Bronze expedition. After two successful years using them, we will again be using the well-established Sam Sykes Ltd ([samsykesltd.com](http://samsykesltd.com)). Sam's presentation that he gave on the information evening is attached.

The costs for the scheme are as follows:

£50 to cover scheme registration and a contribution for our costs of running the scheme at school.

£200 to cover all expedition training, the practice and assessed expedition, as well as use of group equipment such as tents and stoves.

As the expeditions will be taking place near Waddacar and the Yorkshire Dales there are no transport costs included as many parents have taken/collected their own sons, being closer to the venue than school. For those requiring transport from school, I will book a bus and share the cost between those requiring it.

Participants will also be required to equip themselves with outdoor clothing (there will be discussion and advice about equipment, so please DON'T buy lots of new stuff yet).

If a family has particular difficulty with the costs then please contact me as there are sources available in school to ensure that no boy misses the opportunity to participate on financial grounds.

The practice expedition, subject to confirmation, will be on the 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> September, hopefully when the weather improves after the summer holidays and the assessed expedition, again subject to confirmation, 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> May.

With the growing amount of bureaucracy involved with adventurous activities (such as DofE training and Expeditions) and the need to book adequate staff and transport, participants will need to submit completed consent and medical forms, completed route cards and monies by the relevant deadlines. If your son is unable to meet a deadline it may no longer be possible for him to continue with DofE at LRGS. We will be encouraging the boys to have everything in at least a week before the deadline so that they avoid missing-out.

In order to sign up:

Please complete the attached registration form and payment of £50 (using the school's Wisepay system, the entry should be up in the next few days) by Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July (the last day of term). Forms preferably should be emailed to Louise Pearson ([lpearson@lrgs.org.uk](mailto:lpearson@lrgs.org.uk)) or if this is not possible, put in the trips box in Lee House. The balance of £200 will then be required on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

I will shortly be away from school until next term on our Gold DofE expedition, but will endeavour to reply to e-mail questions as and when signal allows. If you have any questions regarding Wisepay, Mrs Pearson ([lpearson@lrgs.org.uk](mailto:lpearson@lrgs.org.uk)) should be able to help you.

Kind regards,

Dr A Shawcross

Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

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