



September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Silver Duke of Edinburgh award – Year 11

I am writing to you to inform you of your son/daughters interest in taking on the next award of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme (SILVER). This is an internationally recognized qualification that is highly regarded for job application, college and university admissions like the Bronze award.

The award will involve further significant levels of commitment out of school and afterschool from the students as they will need to spend 6-12 months completing volunteer work, developing a skill and a physical aspect of the award. The highlight of the award is the expedition which takes place outside of the exam period, giving students the opportunity to engage with this award and not interrupt study. Students must be organised and not let it interrupt their final year preparations, they will have no exceptions for not doing homework/coursework or keeping to timescales given by their academic teachers.

The staff at the Vale of York Academy and I work really hard to deliver this award and will support pupils throughout, however, students must be motivated and engaged in wanting to achieve this.

After October half term, I will meet with pupils to deliver the essential additional training of navigation, cooking on expedition, camp craft, tent pitching, first aid and lots more. I will see the students in the lead up to expeditions to prepare them. Students can only do Silver if they have completed Bronze.

Key Expedition section dates – Silver

- **Saturday 19th - Monday 21st Oct 2019 – 3 DAYS/2NIGHTS PRACTICE (Malham – Stainforth – Horton in Ribblesdale – Austwick) (4 weeks' time)**
- **Saturday 3rd July - Monday 5th July 2020 - 3 DAYS/2NIGHTS ASSESSMENT (Grosmont – Robin Hoods Bay – Lythe (Via Whitby) – Beacons Hill)**

Dates are set in stone so please work these around Holidays if you want to do the award.

There is a £40 fee for registering with the award, and this pays for administration, welcome pack and EdofE system log on. Further costs to the award this year will be £80.00 which covers the 2 x 3 day expeditions. This includes transport, campsite fees, equipment borrowing if needed and all the training and activities throughout the year provided by me.

The full cost of the award is £120.00.

Vale of York Academy
Rawcliffe Drive, Clifton (Without), York YO30 6ZS
Tel: 01904 560000 Fax: 01904 560067
Email: contact@valeofyorkacademy.org
www.valeofyorkacademy.org

A full breakdown of costs can be found below which explains where the money is used and to show you we have cut costs as much as we can to make it value for money. If any students struggle with payment for this award, please see Mr Rampling for a conversation as we would like to ensure there aren't barriers to anyone wanting to undertake this award.

Expenditure (based on 15 people - SILVER)	How much?	Per person	Total
Campsite fees (students) £7.50 per night for 4 nights	£450.00	£30.00	£450.00
Staff campsite fees (based on 3 staff)	£90.00	£6.00	£540.00
Fuel cost for cooking	£30.00	£1.00	£570.00
Minibus use (2 evening walk) (1 minibus)	£105.00	£7.00	£675.00
Minibus use (6 days) (1 MINIBUS)	£300.00	£20.00	£975.00
Fuel for minibus for the evening walks	£60.00	£4.00	£1,035.00
Fuel for minibus for the 2 weekends	£180.00	£12.00	£1,215.00
Dofe book (bought from CYC)	£600.00	£40.00	£1,815.00
Practice weekend -	£40.00		
Assessment weekend -	£40.00		
Cost of book and online subscription	£40.00		
Total cost - £120.00	£120.00		

To reserve your place please pay the **deposit of £40.00 and return the attached enrolment form to me in school. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.** However if you would like to pay the full £120.00 in one lump sum then you're more than welcome.

Payment should be paid on the Schools Parent Pay account. Please pay for this and advise on the attached DofE enrolment form that this has been paid. Please can I have all forms back by **Friday 11th October 2019 (3 weeks)** and these are to be returned to me in PE or school reception.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or issues around this and I look forward to seeing pupils join up to this great award.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Mark Rampling
Head of PE and Enrichment


Silver Award (15+)

Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
6 months	One section for 6 months and the other section for 3 months		Plan, train and complete a 3 day, 2 night expedition. You will do this twice – A Practice and Assessed.

Direct entrants must undertake a **further** 6 months in the Volunteering or the **longer** of the Physical or Skills sections.



Open to all those Year 11 students who completed their Bronze DofE with School this year..