



10 June 2021

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 recognised qualification that is highly regarded on job applications, college and university admissions.

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 completing 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 their studies. Students must be organised and not let it interrupt their final year preparations. There will be no exceptions for not doing homework/coursework or keeping to timescales given by their academic teachers.

Following on from the letters given out in this pack, the Silver Award presents an exciting opportunity where by the Covid pandemic has allowed adaptations to be made to the award. DofE award have stated that pupils can also complete their Silver practice weekend at the same time as completing their Bronze assessed if they complete activities the evening before as planned. This opens up a great opportunity for those who are looking to do their Silver in Year 11 to sign up this coming week and use this weekend at the end of June for both purposes.

This is an optional element and students can just complete the 2 Bronze weekend days for their Bronze award, however those who do wish to continue on to Silver would do a 4pm - 8.30pm session at Vale of York the night before the Bronze weekend to qualify as their Silver practice.

Key Expedition section dates – Silver

- **Friday 25 June 2021 (4pm – 8.30pm) and Saturday 26/Sunday 27 June – Silver practice weekend (Yorkshire dales)**
- **Saturday 25 - Monday 27 September 2021 – 3 DAYS/2NIGHTS ASSESSMENT (Malham – Stainforth – Horton in Ribblesdale – Austwick) - TBC**

There is a £41.00 fee for registering with the award, this covers the administration, welcome pack and EDofE system log in to CYC. Further costs to the award this year will be £40.00 which covers the 3 day expedition in September. This includes transport, campsite fees, equipment borrowing if needed and all the training and activities throughout the year provided by myself. This means the full cost of the award is £81.00 in total as opposed to the usual £121.00.

If any students struggle with payment, please contact Mr Rampling as we would like to ensure there are no barriers to anyone wanting to undertake this award.

Vale of York Academy
Rawcliffe Drive, Clifton (Without),
York YO30 6ZS
Tel: 01904 560000
Email: hello@voy.hlt.academy
www.valeofyorkacademy.org

To reserve your students place please pay the deposit of £41.00 and return the attached enrolment form to myself, Mr Rampling at school. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. No other payments will be taken at this time for the assessed Silver expedition until September.

Payment should be made on the Schools Parent Pay system. Please advise this has been done on the attached DofE enrolment form. All forms need to be handed in by **Friday 18 June 2021** (sorry for the tight turnaround), this is so we can enrol all the students before the weekend commences.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or issues you may have. You can do this via email at m.rampling@voy.hlt.academy or on 01904 560000.

I look forward to seeing students join up to this great award.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Mark Rampling
Head of Sport and Enrichment



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

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.
<p><i>Direct entrants must undertake a further 6 months in the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.</i></p>			



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