

September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award – Year 10 & 11**

I am writing to you to inform you of your son/daughters interest in taking on the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. 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 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.

Those students who have completed the Bronze Award in Year 9 or 10 can continue with Silver if they wish. Those who haven't completed Bronze but would like to complete Silver can go directly on to Silver with the year group and miss out Bronze. This would involve students signing up and these students would attend the Bronze training day on Saturday 29th February and Saturday 8th March 2025. Alternatively, students in Year 10 and 11 could do the Bronze award with the current Year 9 cohort if missed out last year and want to do it. Students just need to ask me for more information on this.

#### **Key Expedition section dates – Silver**

**Friday 2 May 2025 (Leaving Vale of York at 4pm) and returning on Sunday 4 May (approx. 5pm) – Silver practice weekend (Stokesley). As Monday 5 May is a bank holiday there is no school for students. Revision sessions will be planned in the evenings as needed.**

**Saturday 24 May – Monday 26th May 2025 (May half term). 3 Days/2 Nights assessment (Malham – Stainforth – Horton in Ribblesdale – Austwick). Revision sessions will be planned in the evenings and run by subject teachers on the expedition.**

#### **Cost of the award**

£330 to pay for running award costs, which covers the 2 expedition weekends and camping. This also includes transport, campsite fees and equipment borrowing.

£28 to pay for DofE enrolment - this pays for administration, welcome pack, certificate and DofE system log on.

£12 to pay towards yearly license of DofE that the school needs to pay

**Total - £370.00 for the award**

Vale of York Academy

Rawcliffe Drive, Clifton (Without), York YO30 6ZS

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Email: [hello@voy.hslt.academy](mailto:hello@voy.hslt.academy)

Website: [voy.hslt.academy](http://voy.hslt.academy)

If any students struggle with payment for this award, please contact Mr Rampling as we would like to ensure there aren't barriers to anyone wanting to undertake this award. Payments can be paid in instalments as per below or can be altered if needed.

**DofE Deposit** - £70.00 (Due by Friday 25th October 2024)

**Instalment 1** - £100.00 (Due by Friday 31st January 2025)

**Instalment 2** - £100.00 (Due by Monday 24th March 2025)

**Instalment 3** - £100.00 (Due by Monday 19th May 2025)

To reserve your place please pay the **deposit of £70 and return the attached enrolment form to Mr. Rampling in school**. However, if you would like to pay the full £370 at once then please pay the £70 enrolment fee, £100 instalment 1, £100 instalment 2 and £100 instalment 3 on the relevant parent pay tabs.

Payments can only be paid via Parent Pay. Please complete the attached enrolment form to confirm you have paid.

Please return all forms by **Friday 25th October 2024**, to either myself in PE or school Reception.

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.hslt.academy](mailto:m.rampling@voy.hslt.academy) or on 01904 560000.

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

Yours faithfully,



Mr. M Rampling  
Head of Sport and Enrichment  
Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator