



16 December 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE AWARD - PRACTICE EXPEDITION 2026

I would like to inform that your son/daughter has successfully applied to be part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award 2026. An iPayimpact payment request should already have been sent to you. Once all cohort payments have been received then DofE student packs will be ordered and your son/daughter will be able to begin utilising the DofE desktop/mobile app.

I would also like to inform you of some upcoming dates regarding the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. Due to the size of the cohort, there will be an equal split into **Group A** and **Group B**. **This will be done in the first school week of the New Year.**

The first key date for **Group A** will be Friday 27 March 2026 for their practice expedition. This will involve walking in full expedition kit on Friday from school. When returning to school, students will erect their tent and cook an evening meal. Once completed, students will be able to be collected from school.

Group B will complete their practice expedition on Monday 30 March with the same arrangements.

The final assessed expedition, for **Group A**, will be on Friday 26 June. This will involve a day's hike in full expedition kit and an overnight camp at Bibby Hall Farm (just outside Chorley). Students will then complete a further walk on Saturday 27 June, finishing at Rivington Hall. Students will need to be self-sufficient for the entire expedition.

Group B will complete their expedition starting Sunday 28 June and finishing on Monday 29 June, again with same arrangements.

A letter will be sent home nearer the time with further details of the assessed expedition.

A list of kit will be provided at our compulsory student kit meeting. The school will provide tents, cooking stoves and cooking fuel for both the practice and assessed expedition.

Students will begin their navigation and campcraft training in February 2026.

An important reminder, to qualify for the practice expedition students must have started all 3 of their Duke of Edinburgh Award sections (volunteering/skill/physical). This should be their target in January 2026.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Smart
Duke of Edinburgh Leader