



Holy Family Catholic High School

Virgin's Lane, Thornton, Liverpool L23 4UL

Tel: 0151 924 6451 Fax: 0151 932 1417

Headteacher: Mr M Symes BA(Hons), NPQH

Dear Parent / Guardian,

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is the world's leading achievement award for young people and is highly regarded by Universities, Colleges and Employers. It encourages young people to develop independence, commitment, leadership and teamwork through being involved in a personalised programme of activities. The school fully supports the award and recognises its unique value for developing skills and attributes in young people.

The Award is split into Four sections; Volunteering, Physical, Skill, and Expedition. It takes approximately 9 months to complete and requires regular commitment to various activities. Your son/daughter will need to find ways to fulfil the Volunteering, Physical and Skill section of the award, while in school we will focus on the Expedition section.

Volunteering, Skill and Physical Section

Please see the Duke of Edinburgh Award website: www.dofe.org for more information about each section. Candidates need to choose an activity that fulfils the requirements of the award and ask a suitably experienced adult to be their assessor. This person must not be a family member but someone who would be able to set targets and review progress i.e. dance teacher, scout leader or a cadet instructor. Two sections should be done for at least 15 hours spread over a minimum of 3 months and one section for at least 30 hours spread over a minimum of 6 months.

When a candidate elects to self-arrange an activity outside of school, D of E Leaders will check the suitability of their proposed activity to fulfil the requirements of the award. The candidate's parent(s)/carer(s) are responsible for assuring themselves of the suitability of the assessor and organisation with regards to the safety of their child.

Candidates will need to start their activities by October 2024. Please do consider what activities your child might do before committing to the award.

Expedition Section

This section requires candidates to undertake 2 expeditions. There will be a practice and assessed expedition. Both will take place over two days and 1 night. (I have booked 3 days to accommodate the volume of candidates who wish to participate)

The provisional dates for the expeditions are as follows:

Wednesday 11th – Friday 13th June 2025: Practice Expedition

Wednesday 9th – Friday 11th July 2025: Assessed Expedition

Expedition Training will take place after school (3.00pm-3.50pm) from November 2024 to March 2025. Attendance is compulsory to ensure that candidates are trained and prepared and that we are confident they are ready for the expeditions. Each candidate will have to have a complete training log in order to take part in the assessed expedition.

Candidates will be expected to have their own personal walking equipment, whilst the school will provide tents and cooking equipment. We have a limited number of individual items (sleeping bags and rucksacks) that can be borrowed. There is a discount available in many outdoor retailers for Duke of Edinburgh Award candidates.

The total cost to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme will be £250. This will cover costs for the log book, registration onto the Award Scheme, training, staffing, transport, campsite fees and equipment. **A deposit of £40 will be required by 20th September 2024**, the outstanding amount is to be paid by 21st March 2025. It is anticipated that there will be a high demand to participate in the Award Scheme and numbers are limited.

Many aspects of the Award Scheme are completed independently and will require candidates to conduct themselves suitably at all times. Therefore, participation onto the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme will be at the discretion of the school.

Please be informed that all candidates will need an email address to participate in the scheme and this should be submitted with the reply slip.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award website has more details on the Award and what each section involves. Please encourage your child to have a look at the website as they plan what they might do. If you have any further questions please do contact me at the school or by email m.kinsella@holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Morley
Duke of Edinburgh Award Co-Ordinator

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme Bronze

Name of participant.....Form

Date of birth.....

I have paid a deposit of £40 registration fee (non-refundable) on SCOPAY to enrol on to the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

The school email address of the **candidate** is:

.....@holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk

Signed (Parent/Guardian)