

Queen Elizabeth High School



Ashfields, Bromyard, Herefordshire, HR7 4QS

T:01885 482230 www.qehs.co

E:admin@tcat.school

Executive Head: Martin Farmer BEd (Hons) NPQH

Head of School: Mr.S. Seneque

Our Ref: HE/DofE

11th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Congratulations to your son/daughter on successfully completing their Bronze DofE Award, pending their final presentation that is due during the first few weeks in September. They are now eligible to attempt their Silver Award.

The DofE has 3 progressive levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold. At Silver there remains four sections for your son/daughter to complete: physical, skill, volunteering and the expedition, however they have to commit longer periods of time to some of those sections (Volunteering = 6 months, Physical and Skills = one section for 6 months and the other for 3 months). The expedition is also longer and takes place over 3 days and 2 nights.

The cost for your son/daughter to undertake the Silver DofE award at QEHS is **£175**. This includes:

- Enrolment fee
- Campsite fees (for the practice and qualifying expeditions)
- Contributions towards the licensing fee and staff training costs
- Equipment hire and maintenance
- Administration charge (e.g. fuel, staff campsite fees, contingency, etc.)

Silver Expedition Preparation		
Session	Topic	Date
1	eDofE login (programme planner) and expedition groups	3 rd October 2025
2	Practice Expedition Route Planning 1	9 th January 2025
3	Practice Expedition Route Planning 2	16 th January 2025
4	eDofE review (3 months) and Planning 3	23 rd January 2025
5	Practice Expedition Route Planning 4	30 th January 2025
6	Expedition Training (navigation, stove safety, etc)	20 th March 2025
7	Expedition Preparation and Kit Handout	27 th March 2025
PRACTICE EXPEDITION – 28-30/3/25		



Three Counties Academy Trust



QUEEN ELIZABETH
HIGH SCHOOL

In order to attempt the Silver Award students will need to commit to a series of DofE sessions through the year to plan routes and practice skills they may have forgotten since completing Bronze (please see the below timetable), and make themselves available for all expedition dates. **It is important to note that there is a significant rise in challenge from the Bronze Award and participants need to show even greater commitment, dedication and resilience to be successful. Pupils must also meet the expectations outlined previously for the Bronze Award (i.e. being role models around school, completing certain sections prior to expeditions etc.).**

Silver Expedition Preparation		
Session	Topic	Date
8	Qualifying Exped Route Planning 1	8 th May 2025
9	Qualifying Exped Route Planning 2	15 th May 2025
10	eDofE review (6 months) and Qualifying Exped Route Planning 3	22 nd May 2025
11	Qualifying Exped Route Planning 4	5 th June 2025
12	Expedition Prep	26 th June 2025
QUALIFYING EXPEDITION – 28-30/6/25		

In order to secure your son/daughter’s place on the programme, I am now requesting return of the attached permission slip along with the sign-up fee of **£175** to school by **Friday 27th September**. It is important to note that all fees are non-refundable and your son/daughter will not be able to attend the qualifying expedition unless all other sections of their award are completed, evidenced and approved.

Should you have any questions regarding the DofE Award please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Ms. H Eames

DofE Manager and Expedition Supervisor

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The Duke of Edinburgh Award

Name of Student: Form:

I/we give permission for our child to participate in The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award. Payment of £175.00 to be made through MCAS/BACS*.

*Delete as appropriate

Signed: Date: