



Our Ref: APO

October 2023



Dear Parent / Carer

Duke of Edinburgh Award: BRONZE AWARD

Following past success, we are proud to be running the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award for another year at Rednock School. Consequently, we would like to provide your year 9 child with the opportunity to participate in the Bronze Award.

The DofE is a great chance for your child to broaden their horizons, discover new interests and talents, have fun with friends, develop essential skills for their future and achieve an internationally renowned Award.

As Rednock's DofE Manager, I wanted to send you some information about what the DofE programme involves, the benefits for your child and how they can sign up.

About the DofE

The DofE is non-competitive and open to all young people – it's about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries. There are three levels of DofE programme which, when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award.

Through their DofE, students will make friends and memories and build traits like confidence, resilience and self-esteem, which can benefit mental health. They'll gain skills and attributes for work and life, like problem-solving, team-working and self-motivation – and they'll achieve an Award that's recognised by top employers and can help them stand out when applying for university or jobs.

DofE is the world's leading youth achievement award, giving young people the opportunity to be the very best they can be. The Bronze Award involves three months of volunteering, a physical activity, a new skill, a Practice and training weekend and a Final Expedition of two days walking and one overnight camp.

Every young person's DofE programme is personal to them – they can choose what they would like to do for their Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections, and most activities can count. We will provide guidance and support, and students can either choose to continue an activity they already do or discover something completely new.

Activities for each section take a minimum of one hour a week over a set period of time, so they can fit around studying, hobbies and social lives. As a school, we will encourage and advise your child in all aspects of the award and facilitate the expedition requirement. For more details about the award, programmes and timescales visit www.dofe.org.

The DofE programme is designed to encourage independence, confidence and problem solving. As such, your child will be responsible for checking messages on Google Classroom, attending the occasional meeting to make sure their programme is up to date, deciding on and arranging their three sections and finding suitable assessors. Staff at Rednock will support your child, but it is their journey.

eDofE and the DofE app

Participants can create their DofE programme and record their progress using eDofE, the DofE’s digital system, available online at eDofE.org and through the DofE app – downloadable for free from Google Play and the App Store. If your child decides to enrol, we will set up their eDofE account and they will receive details of how to sign in and get started. We will also hold an eDofE launch session and lunchtime support sessions. They need to come with an idea of what they want to do for their sections and who will assess them.

Signing up

The cost of taking part in the Bronze DofE Award this year is **£208 (£80 of which is non-refundable)**. This covers your child’s participation place and Welcome Pack, which will be sent to their home address and includes their personalised DofE Discount Card, the expedition costs organised by an approved licensed outside provider.

If your child is interested in participating, we would like you to attend a parents’ information evening on **Wednesday 11th October at 6pm**. This will explain how it is run at Rednock.

Please note these important calendar dates:

- Bronze Information Evening for Parents and Students:** **Wednesday 11th October 2023 at 6pm**
- Bronze Practice Expedition and Training:** **Weekend 27-28th April 2024**
- Bronze Final Expedition:** **Weekend 22-23rd June 2024**

If your child is interested in taking part in this award, please complete [this google form](#) and we look forward to seeing you at the meeting on **11th October 2023**.

Once you have completed the google form, the £80 deposit will appear on your Parent Pay account and this needs to be paid by **23rd October 2023**. Following receipt of the deposit, your child will be enrolled and have follow up meetings in school. If your child is entitled to pupil premium and you would like any financial assistance with the cost of this award, please indicate this on the google form.

	Amount	Due By
Payment 1 - Non refundable deposit	£80	23rd October 2023
Payment 2	£80	16th December 2023
Payment 3	£48	31st March 2024

We look forward to seeing you and your child on **11th October 2023** and if you have any questions in the meantime, please send an email to me at dofe@rednockschool.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Andrea Porter
Duke of Edinburgh Manager

dofe@rednockschool.org.uk

