



Our ref: APO|VST|001

28th October 2025

Dear Parent / Carer,

RE: Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award

I'm pleased to let you know that Rednock School offers the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) to students in Year 10. 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 Coordinator, I wanted to send you some information about what a 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 the 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.

To achieve their Silver Award, participants must complete all four sections: Skills, Volunteering, Physical and their Expedition. Skills, Volunteering and Physical need to be done for 6 months. These will also need to be assessed. In addition, either Physical or Volunteering must be done for a further 6 months if they are direct entrants and have not done their Bronze. They can start their journey at Rednock, complete it in a year, or take their programme with them and finish it off when it suits them. Their enrolment will be dated back two months so anything they have already started will count towards it.

It will take at least 6 months / 26 weeks for Silver if they have already achieved the Bronze Award, or 12 months if they are going straight into Silver.

- Volunteering section: 6 months / 26 weeks.
- Physical and Skills sections: One section for 6 months / 26 weeks and the other section for 3 months / 13 weeks.
- Expedition section: 3 days / 2 nights.

If they didn't do Bronze, they must undertake a further 6 months in either the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.

Every young person's DofE programme is personal to them. They can choose what they'd 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. Silver should be more challenging than Bronze, so finding a new skill would be ideal. 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. For more details about programmes and timescales visit DofE.org/do.

About the expedition

The expedition section involves your young person working as part of a small team to plan their expedition's aim, choose a location and do some training to make sure they're fully prepared – before spending three days and two nights in the countryside traveling by canoe.

Ahead of this, they will take part in training sessions on the water or on land, covering basic expedition principles and introducing them to expedition equipment. Some of these will possibly take part in school in which your young person and their group will plan their route. Participants will only be able to do their expedition if they attend the organised training and practice.

Proposed dates are:

Tuesday 4th November 5:30pm – 6:30pm Parents presentation evening at Rednock School in Room 162. This is an information event for parents and students.

8th to 11th May 2026 – Training day and practice expedition

13th to 15th June 2026 - Final expedition

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.

Signing up

The cost is **£660.00** which 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 training, map reading skills, basic first aid, camp craft, camping fees, hire of canoes, expedition costs, use of school equipment, tents and cooking equipment.

Payment Schedule

Date	Payment Type	Amount
25 th November 2025	Non-refundable Deposit	£80.00
31 st January 2026	2nd instalment	£200.00
31 st March 2026	3 rd instalment	£200.00
31 st May 2026	4 th instalment	£180.00
		Total = £660.00

To provide consent for your son/daughter to take part in the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award, please complete this Google form [here](#) and pay the deposit of **£80.00**, via Parentpay, by **25th November**.

Once signed up, your child will be expected to take responsibility for their own programme on the DofE website, sign up to Google Classroom for DofE which will be one of the main forms of communication, attend training sessions and lunchtime support meetings. There are support sessions every Wednesday lunchtime in Room 341.

Many thanks for your support and we look forward to helping your child to achieve through their Silver DofE. If you have any questions, please contact me on dofe@rednockschool.org.uk.

Yours faithfully

Andrea Porter
D of E Coordinator