



12th June 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

I'm delighted to let you know that we are about to launch the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE). I am the DofE Leader for Ansford Academy and wanted to write to let you know more about what's involved.

Why do DofE?

Doing their DofE is a brilliant way for your child to discover just how much they are capable of. It gives young people the chance to make new friends, follow their passions, learn new skills and make a difference in their community. Achieving a DofE Award is a great way to impress employers too, plus it helps young people to see themselves differently and gain a new level of confidence.

The DofE is non-competitive and is a powerful way for every young person to build belief in themselves, whatever their background, interests and abilities.

How it works

There are three levels of DofE Award – Bronze, Silver and Gold. To achieve their Award, your child will need to complete four sections – Volunteering, Physical, Skills and the Expedition.

It is important to recognise that your child will need to commit to participating in three activities, one each for the Volunteering, Physical, and Skills sections. Two of these sections must be completed for a minimum of one hour per week over 12 weeks (3 months), and the remaining section must be completed for a minimum of one hour per week over 25 weeks (6 months).

Students can choose what they would like to do for the first three sections and I will be on hand to provide all the guidance and support they need. The Expedition involves spending two days and one night in the countryside. We provide comprehensive training beforehand to ensure everyone is fully prepared and has the best possible experience.

Next steps

We hope lots of our students will take this opportunity to get involved with DofE. The initial cost is £55 per person. This includes the participation fee, log on materials and administration charges set by Somerset Council. Please note there will be a further charge for the expedition which we anticipate to be around £150 which will be dependent on location and numbers. Information on the expedition will follow early next year as we anticipate completing this in Summer 2026.

If your child would like to take part in DofE, please arrange to make the initial payment of £55 via Arbor by **Friday, 3rd July**, this can be found in the Activities/Trips section. By making payment through Arbor, you are giving consent for your child to take part in this activity and confirming you are happy with the activities and arrangements as outlined in this letter.

If your child is interested in taking part but the cost is prohibitive, please see the information attached as bursaries are available to apply for. Please contact me if you have any queries regarding this.



Should you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to contact me. The DofE website dofe.org - has a lot of useful information too.

Thank you for your support. I hope you'll agree that the DofE is the perfect way for your child to feel ready for anything!

Yours sincerely

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