



24 June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Introduction to Oakmoor Bronze DofE Award

I'm pleased to let you know that Oakmoor School offers the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) to students in Year 10 (current year 9's).

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 Oakmoor School's DofE Manager, 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 is about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries. There are three levels of DofE programme which, when successfully completed, can lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award.

Through their DofE, students will make friends and memories. They will build confidence, resilience and self-esteem, which can benefit mental health. They will gain skills and attributes for work and life, such as problem solving, working as part of a team and self-motivation. In addition to these key benefits, our students will achieve an Award that is recognised by top employers. In turn, this can help them stand out when applying for a place at university or a job.

To achieve their Bronze Award, participants must complete four sections: Skills, Volunteering, Physical and their Expedition.

Every young person's DofE programme is personal to them. They can choose what they would like to do for each section 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 it around their study time, hobbies and social lives. For more details about the programme and expected timescales, visit DofE.org/do

About the Expedition

The Expedition section involves your child working as part of a small team to plan their expedition's aim, choose a location and do some training to make sure they are fully prepared. Once this preparation has been completed, they will spend two days and one night camping in the countryside.

Ahead of this, they will take part in a local practice expedition, covering basic expedition principles and introducing them to expedition equipment.

There will also be a number of training sessions after school in which your child and their group will plan their route and prepare. It is important to note that participants will only be able to do their expedition if they attend the organised training, as this is a crucial part of their preparation.

The expeditions will take place in the summer term, and details about pre-expedition training will follow.

eDofE and the DofE app

Participants can create their DofE programme and record their progress using eDofE, the DofE's digital system is available online at eDofE.org and through the DofE app, which can be downloaded for free from Google Play and the App Store.

If your child decides to enroll, 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 in one of the training sessions.

Signing up

The total cost of taking part in the DofE award scheme will be £90 per participant. A registration fee of £30 (non-refundable) is required when signing up. 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.

If your child would like to take part, please pay the registration fee of £30 on the schools Scopay account by 15/07/2022.

If you would like any further information, please feel free to contact me.

For useful updates, please follow the Oakmoor DofE Twitter page - @OakmoorDofe

Many thanks in advance for your support. We look forward to helping your child to learn, grow and achieve through their DofE.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss Andrews
DofE Manager

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