



20/07/17

Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh at St Mary's 2017/2018

Dear Parents and Carers

From September 2017 St Mary's will once again be running the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award for Year 10. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) is the world's leading achievement award for young people and since 1956 over 8 million young people have participated in DofE which is now offered in more than 140 countries.

The four components of the award for Bronze are: **Volunteering (3 months)**, **Physical (3 months)**, **Skills (3 months)** and an **Expedition (2 days, 1 night)**. All participants must undertake a **further 3 months** in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills sections. (See DofE website for further details)

Students will develop a range of skills including their self-confidence, initiative, a sense of responsibility, a greater awareness of their strengths, the ability to plan and use time effectively, the ability to learn from and give back to others in the community, problem solving, presentation and communication skills and leadership and team working skills

To help the students achieve their Award they are encouraged to use activities which they enjoy and find a challenge. These may include activities in which they are already taking part or as an opportunity to develop new skills and hobbies. A DofE programme demands persistence and commitment and cannot be completed with a short burst of enthusiasm. We hope that the students will find participation enjoyable, fulfilling and rewarding.

Key dates.

September 2017 Year 10 Assembly presentation and **written applications for places by 4.00pm Thursday 21st September 2017**
(not first come first served)

End September 2017 Confirmation letter and Payment and Registration for Duke of Edinburgh
Thursday 5th October 6.15pm Parents Information Evening (same evening as Y10 T&L meeting)

During October 2017 Skills, Physical and Volunteering activities undertaken

Autumn & Spring Weekly PSHE sessions on e-DofE, First Aid, Map Reading, Cooking with a Trangia, Menu Planning, Packing Rucksacks, Appropriate Clothing, Pitching Tents, Countryside and Highway Code, Health and Safety issues etc

By February 1st 2018 Full completion on e-DofE of the two 3 month sections.

By April 20th 2018 Full completion on e-DofE of the 6 month section.

Only those participants who have fully completed all 3 sections on e-DofE will be taking part in the expedition section

Friday 27th and Compulsory Practice Expedition

Saturday 28th April 2018

Friday 6th & Assessed Expedition

Saturday 7th July 2018

Mr P Dolman.
School DofE Co-ordinator
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"The school's motto: 'achieving excellence for all' has become a reality at this outstanding school"
(Ofsted 2012)

