



Hall Green School An Academy

September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

We are offering your child the opportunity to partake in the **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme**. The Award consists of four sections; **Physical, Skill, Volunteering and Expedition**.

In order to complete the Bronze Award students need to do three months of Voluntary work, three months of Skill training and three months on a Physical Activity. They then spend a further three months on one of these sections. A list of the activities your child can do for these sections can be found on the following website: www.dofe.org. Please click on "Doing your D of E" to find out all information.

The **expedition** requirement at Bronze level is a two day overnight walking expedition. The purpose of the Expedition is to encourage students to explore a designated area, be self-reliant and to be competent in the use of a map and compass to follow a planned route. Students will work in group sizes of between four and six. To prepare for this, students will need to attend training sessions which will start in October when numbers have been finalised (dates to be confirmed nearer the time). They will also need to partake in:

- 1) A practice day walk – Venue and Date TBC
- 2) A practice expedition – 12 and 13 May 2018 (Bakewell, Derbyshire)
- 3) An assessed expedition – 25 and 26 May 2018 (The Long Mynd, Church Stretton)

All participants must attend all training sessions and dates are now calendared and will not be moved under any circumstances. Please be aware the assessed expedition dates are likely to fall with Ramadan – students undertaking the expedition will not be able to fast due to the nature of the expedition.

Please Note: During weekend expeditions, staff **will not** be walking with students but will be on check points to ensure students are navigating correctly or remotely supervising students. Staff will be present on the campsites overnight but students may be left on their own at times. Travel will be by coach.

Your child will be briefed on the equipment they will need for expeditions during training sessions. Until this point your child will only attend one or two sessions to learn how to use their log book and decide which activities they wish to use for their skill, physical and volunteering sections.

Where possible it would be better if students could purchase their own equipment **particularly boots, socks, waterproofs and sleeping bags**. As members of the Award they are able to get **15% discount** from Cotswolds Outdoors, Decathlon (Wednesbury) and Go Outdoors (Wolverhampton) and they will

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also give good advice about the correct equipment to buy at reasonable prices. All tents, stoves, maps and compasses will be provided by Horizon Expeditions, unless your child wishes to use their own.

The costing of the trip will depend on the number of students who sign up. We have an **estimated cost of £197.00** per student but a final costing will be sent home to those pupils who express an interest and wish to do the award. To secure a place for your son or daughter a **deposit of £25.00** is payable no later than **Friday 29 September** via ParentPay. Any monies paid are **non-refundable** unless the award does not run due to lack of numbers.

It is essential that all payment deadlines are adhered to; any students that have not paid by this date will not be permitted to participate in this trip. Deadlines are set to ensure the school can make payments to the organising company in advance of the trip taking place. Payment also signifies parental permission for the pupil to attend the trip. If your child is eligible for the Pupil Premium we may be able to help meet part of the cost of this trip. If financial help is required, please contact Mr Hosfield via the usual school number.

Please note: During trips and visits members of the public often comment on the good behaviour of our pupils and how much of an ambassador they are to the school. However, if your son / daughter fails to meet the school's Expectations for Learning, displays unacceptable behaviour in or out of school or shows a poor attitude towards staff, the privilege of attending may be revoked at any time at the Head teacher's discretion. No refund of any monies paid will be made

If you have any further questions I can be contacted at school.

Yours sincerely

Miss T Smith
Duke of Edinburgh Manager
Head of Lorien House.