



Hall Green School An Academy

September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Following on from the successful completion of the **Bronze Award** last year your son/daughter is now invited to sign up for the **Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award**. Naturally, there are higher demands on students wishing to complete the Silver Award. Students need to do six months of Voluntary Work, three months of Skill Training and three months on a Physical Activity. They then need to complete a further three months on **one** of these sections. A list of the activities your child can choose can be found on the following website: www.dofe.org. Please click on “Doing your D of E” to find out all information.

It may be possible for your son/daughter to continue with the activities they carried out for Bronze level if they can show an increase in their development and responsibility. However, this should be checked with me before they sign up.

The **expedition** requirement at Silver level is a three day, two night walking expedition. Students will work in group sizes of between four and six. To prepare for this, students will attend a practice afternoon walk to revise their navigation skills before the practice and assessed expeditions. In order to avoid any impact on your son/daughter’s GCSE examinations the expeditions will take place after all exams have finished. See below for dates:

- 1) A practice afternoon walk – Date and Venue TBC
- 2) A practice expedition – 30 June, 1 and 2 July 2018 (Hay-on-Wye)
- 3) An assessed expedition – 6, 7 and 8 July 2018 (Peak District)

All participants must attend all training sessions and dates are now calendared and will not be moved under any circumstances.

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 first night campsite overnight but students will be left on their own for the second night at a different campsite to encourage independence and prepare them for the possibility of the Gold Award on completion of their Silver. We have run the trip in this way and had no concerns with leaving students. Should you have any concerns please contact me at school. Travel will be by mini bus, driven by staff.

The costing of the trip will depend on the number of students who sign up. We have an **estimated cost of £277.00** per student but a final costing will be sent home to those pupils who express an interest and wish to do the award. This will cover all camping costs, transport, stoves, tents, compasses, rucksacks and maps for all expeditions.

Hall Green School is a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England & Wales. Registered Number 7892732.
Registered Office: Southam Road, Hall Green, Birmingham B28 0AA Head Teacher: Mr D Adams
Tel: 0121 628 8787 Fax: 0121 702 2182 Email: enquiry@hallgreen.bham.sch.uk www.hallgreen.bham.sch.uk



To secure a place for your son/daughter on the Silver Award a **deposit of £25.00** is payable no later than **Friday 29 September 2017** 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 questions or queries regarding the Duke of Edinburgh Award, please contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

Miss T Smith
Duke of Edinburgh Manager
Head of Lorien House