**Hall Green School**

**An Academy**

September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Your son/daughter has expressed an interest in completing 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, pupils must do three months of Voluntary work, three months 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](http://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 pupils 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. Pupils will work in group sizes of between four and six. **To prepare for this, pupils will need to attend training sessions, every Wednesday from 3.15pm until 4.15pm. These will start in October, date to be confirmed nearer the time.**

**1) Training Day – 31 March 2023**

**2) An assessed expedition – Bakewell, 28 and 29 April 2023**

**All participants must attend all sessions. Dates are booked and will not be moved under any circumstances.**

**Please note:** During expeditions, staff will not be walking with pupils but will be on check points to ensure they are navigating correctly, or remotely supervising pupils. Staff will be present on the campsites overnight but pupils may be left on their own at times. Travel for the day walk will be via train to Sutton Park, pupils will travel independently as a way of promoting independence. Travel to Bakewell will be via coach or school minibus.

Your son/daughter will be briefed on the equipment they will need for expeditions during training sessions. Training will begin in October, once numbers have been finalised. Until this point, your child will only attend one or two sessions to learn how to use their D of E accounts 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 scheme, they are able to get **15% discount from Cotswolds Outdoors**. Decathlon (Wednesbury) and Go Outdoors (Wolverhampton / Birmingham) also give good advice about the correct equipment to buy at reasonable prices. All tents, stoves, maps and compasses will be provided by school, 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 estimated costs of £150.00 per pupil. Final costings will be sent home to those pupils who express a commitment to the scheme and pay a deposit. To secure a place, a deposit of £50.00 must be paid no later than **31 October 2022**. **Monies paid are non-refundable unless the award does not run due to low** **numbers**. Funding may be accessed by visiting, [*bhamdoeawardassoc.webs.com*](http://bhamdoeawardassoc.webs.com/) where you may make an application for support. If successful we will receive a cheque for up to £60 to support your child’s place.

**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.

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Registered Office: Southam Road, Hall Green, Birmingham B28 0AA Headteacher: Miss K Slater Tel: 0121 628 8787

 Email: enquiry@hallgreen.bham.sch.uk www.hallgreen.bham.sch.uk Twitter @HallGreenSch