



Y10 – D of E SILVER AWARD 2027

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Dear Parent / Guardian

The Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award is now available to Year 10's. Students are welcome to register for the Award if they have completed their Bronze or not. However, if they do wish to register without having completed bronze, they will have to complete a longer period of activity.

The Award is an enormously valuable achievement and is recognised worldwide. Universities and employers are looking for more than just good grades and extra-curricular activities. They are looking for evidence that shows more than your academic achievements alone, so emphasising involvement on a UCAS or Job Application, can convey to an institution or employer that you are ambitious, committed and have a wide range of interests and skills. It will certainly help a young person stand out from the crowd.

A whole host of further information, advice and 'how to' guides are freely available on the internet, and I would thoroughly recommend taking some time to access www.dofe.org for more information before committing to any payments.

Costs to cover registration with the charity itself and the expeditions are **£420 for Silver**.

Parents/Guardians may wish to know. The school delivers the expeditions on a non-profit basis. Only the direct costs of the expeditions are met through these charges. Equipment such as, tents, stoves, rucksacks can all be borrowed from the school free of charge and any monies remaining in budgets at the end of a financial year are reinvested within the D of E setup. (External staff make up the largest section of this fee)

The school will open an enrolment window from **Friday 2nd October until Friday 15th January 2027** for Y10 participants to secure a place. During this period, an initial non-refundable deposit of **£90** will need to be made by 15th January.

£165 will need to be paid by Friday 12th February and the final balance of £165 by Friday 19th March 2027.

The school does offer a discount for Pupil premium students, please contact me directly for clarification.

Balances should be paid, in full by 19th March 2027 and a place on the expedition/s will not be allocated without full payment being made by these dates.

Please be aware that in the unlikely event of a conflict in dates occurring or injury/illness preventing participation in any expedition you may not be eligible for a refund through the school insurance policy. Circumstances for a need to withdraw from an expedition will be assessed individually and we would ask you to contact us via email as soon as possible should any issues arise. **We would also ask you to cross-reference the expedition dates with your family calendar at this point as we are afraid this payment of £90 is non-refundable.**



Expedition dates for 2025 are set as follows.

Event/Expedition	Date	Venue	Transportation
Training Expedition	Friday 23rd – Sunday 25 th April 2027	Edale, Peak District	Coach
Qualifying Expedition	Friday 14 th – Sunday 16 th May 2027	Llangollen	Coach

If your child is already participating at Bronze, the appropriate level will be added to their existing account and they are welcome to sign in independently from the 15th February, providing they have previously registered with school and have paid the required £90 (**non-refundable**) deposit. **If your child is starting their DofE journey at Silver, please understand that there will be further time commitments needed. However, it is still possible to take this award with our school.**

To be eligible for the Qualifying expedition the students will have to have completed their Bronze award. If the student is joining directly at Silver then they should have submitted their desired activities for approval.

Please click on the following link to view our launch assembly presented to our pupils on this week:

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/REqPPyu1djlOv7RH?ref=Link>

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a fantastic opportunity and is available to every student within the school. If circumstances are such that the cost alone is a barrier to your son/daughter's participation, please do get in touch at your earliest possible convenience.

I would just like to finish by taking this opportunity to thank you in advance for all the support you will undoubtedly be offering in the background to help facilitate participation. If you have any queries regarding any of the above, please do not hesitate to get in touch via the email at the top of this letter.

Yours faithfully

Mr O. Gifford

Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator Bridgewater High School.