



St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School

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Ms C. McCormack Headteacher

13 October 2021

DofE Silver Enrolment 2020/2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are very excited to once more be in a position to offer pupils in year 10 the opportunity to complete the silver Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Why do the DofE Award?

When your child does their DofE programme they'll develop the skills and attitudes they need to become more rounded, confident adults, qualities that colleges, universities and employers are attracted to. So when you support your child's pursuit of their Duke of Edinburgh's Award, you're investing in their future.

You can expect to see your child develop in the following areas as they work through their DofE programme:

- Self-belief and self-confidence
- A sense of identity
- Initiative and a sense of responsibility
- A real awareness of their strengths
- New talents and abilities
- The ability to plan and use time effectively
- Learning from and giving to others in the community
- Forming new friendships
- Problem solving, presentation and communication skills
- Leadership and teamworking skills.

What is involved in the DofE Silver Award

There are four sections to complete:

Volunteering is simple. It's about choosing to give time to help people, the community or society, the environment or animals. As a school, we will also help to facilitate this but any pre-existing volunteering activities can be included.

Physical activity you need to choose any sport, dance or fitness activity – in short, anything that requires a sustained level of energy and physical activity. For example, playing a sport regularly for a club/team outside of school or attending the gym once a week but keep your receipts as these will contribute to your evidence. However, learning to be a coach in the same sport would be a Skills section activity, whilst being a volunteer coach counts for the Volunteering section.

Skills activity you need to choose an activity that will allow you to prove you have broadened your understanding and increased your expertise in your chosen skill. It should not be a physical activity, for example horse riding, as this counts towards your Physical section, however, you could choose to learn about caring for horses. Gaining a qualification in your physical activity counts as a skill such as coaching. School

will be running a first aid course at lunchtimes once a week.

Expedition section, you will need to plan, train for and complete an unaccompanied, self-reliant expedition with an agreed aim. You must do the correct training for your level and mode of travel, at least one practice expedition, a qualifying expedition (the one that is assessed) and a final presentation in order to complete the section. This will be done using Moel Famau area.

If you would like any more information on these sections, please visit www.dofe.org.

In order for your son/daughter to participate in the award there are unfortunately some costs:

The total cost of the DofE Silver award is £70, this includes a £25 enrolment which is outside of our control. This will enrol your son/daughter onto the Duke of Edinburgh Award and the Award will provide login details to the email account that is being used to register on the attached form. The remaining money is for covering the cost of expeditions, training and equipment. An open balance payment will be set up on the school gateway meaning that you have flexibility over making the payments to suit you between now and June.

A letter will be sent out with more details about the expeditions in May. As pupils will be opting to complete this award, time during lunch, after school and on weekends will be needed to complete the necessary components.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss any part of the award, please do not hesitate to contact me, here in school via my email: Christopher.Hoppins@strichardgwyn.flintshire.sch.uk.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Kind regards,

C Hoppins

Mr C. Hoppins
DofE Coordinator and Leader