

Subject:	Duke of Edinburgh's Award
Level:	BRONZE
Awarding Body:	The Duke of Edinburgh's Award
Directly Licensed Centre:	Pensby High School
Awarding Body website:	www.dofe.org
Sections:	
Volunteering	3 Months
Physical	3 Months
Skills	3 Months
Expeditions	2 Days 1 Night (one practise and one assessment)
	Plus a further 3 months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.
DofE Manager	Mr Davies
DofE coordinator	Mrs Cantillon
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Description

Next year's Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award will start next September. This fantastic opportunity is open to all Year 8 pupils, effectively starting Year 9 with a new programme. It is very important that you read all of the information before you make any decision about signing up for the award.

This is now a part of a regular programme of activities on offer to all students within a year group, we have introduced DofE because it has a huge positive impact on young people. It gives students leadership skills, confidence and belief in themselves; it allows students to discuss a range of opportunities that might not otherwise be available to them. Students find this an immense help when they apply for university, college or employment. We have a fantastic response, with a whole year group approach in the award. We hope that everyone within the current year can take up this offer.

What is it?

The Duke of Edinburgh, or DofE, is the world's leading youth achievement award, giving millions of 14 to 25 year-olds the opportunity to be the very best they can be. It is a voluntary, non-competitive programme of practical, cultural and adventurous activities, designed to support the personal and social development of young people aged 14-25. It offers an individual challenge and encourages young people to undertake exciting, constructive and enjoyable activities in their free time, with a well-recognised award at the end to show a possible employer their determination to commit and undertake challenges.

What does the programme consist of?

It is a four Section Programme with three progressive levels:

- Bronze
- Silver
- Gold

What do the Sections involve?

- Volunteering - Helping other people in the local community

- Skills - Covering almost any hobby, skill or interest
- Physical Recreation - Sports, dance and fitness
- Expeditions - The Expedition section requires participants to undertake a 2 day 1 night backpacking practice expedition and an assessed 2 day, 1 night backpacking expedition
- Participants will need to attend all expedition training sessions and complete both 2 day one night events.

How long will it take?

It takes at least six months to achieve the Bronze Award, twelve months for Silver and eighteen months for Gold. This means you will need approximately four hours per week dedicated to this Award. Included in that is 1 hour per week after school for the Expedition training (days to be arranged) and 3 hours for your chosen activities over the week.

How much will it cost?

- £28 for the registration welcome pack and the eDofE account. You will receive a certificate and badge on completion (The £28 is non-refundable as it is paid to DofE)
- Expeditions – £100 for the 2 day practise expedition taking place on the Wirral (food not included) and then £100 for the assessment expedition taking place in Cheshire (Helsby, Frodsham, Delamere) (Food not included)
- Financial support may be available in certain cases. Please contact me at school if you would like to discuss this
- Volunteering - usually little or no cost
- Skills - cost depends on the skill chosen and can be negligible
- Physical Recreation - costs depend on the sport chosen and on local availability.

Pupils will have assemblies in the coming months informing them all about this fantastic opportunity available to them here at Pensby High School. The Bronze Award is being offered to Year 9 pupils. There is no longer an age restriction so they can start at the beginning of the academic year. Please note that this Award is a remote supervision activity and when the students are on their expedition the teachers will only meet them at checkpoints on their route and will be supervised at the campsite.

Duke of Edinburgh meetings

During the year, your child will attend a DofE Lunchtime and after school meetings when required. Attendance is crucial to ensure that participants are keeping up to date with their sections and that your child is fully trained for unaccompanied expeditions. Each participant will have to have a completed training log in order to take part in the expeditions. They also need to have 50% of their other sections completed before undertaking the expedition.

Registration Fee - From July 2023

If your child would like enrol in the DofE award you will receive further information from July 2023 which will include a link to register and payment details (via Scopay). We look forward to guiding the students through this exciting challenge. Please encourage your child to have a look at the DofE website.

The Duke of Edinburgh website has more details on the scheme www.dofe.org or if you have any further questions contact Mr Davies or Mrs Cantillon.