



Dear Parents (and Year 9 Students),

## The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a challenging and rewarding programme of personal development activities for young people aged 14-25. The Bronze Award begins at the start of the spring term and we offer entry to interested and committed year 9 students. It is anticipated that they will complete the Bronze Award in about 12 months.

The Bronze Award is made up of four sections that involve:

- **Volunteering** (*helping other people in the local community*)
- **Skills** (*covering almost any hobby, skill or interest*)
- **Physical Recreation** (*sport, dance and fitness*)
- **Expedition** (*training for, planning and completing a 2-day and 1-night journey on foot*).

### **Why do the Award?**

Fun; new skills and interests; sense of achievement; friendship; discovering self-confidence and self-reliance; enhanced self-esteem. The Award is widely recognised by employers, colleges and universities. Achievements will add to the student's Progress File and CV.

### **How much does it cost?**

The cost is made up of 2 parts. The fee for enrolment is £27. This covers the centre subscription fee, and provides students with their welcome pack.

There will also be an additional cost for the expedition section. However, due to the ongoing and changing nature of this regarding Covid19, we cannot give an exact figure at this time. The expeditions will take place in the summer term of year 10. In previous years this has been approx. £150, and will be in this ballpark if we are able to follow our usual format, however it will vary dependant on expedition location.

### **How much time should the Award take to complete?**

The Award runs from the spring term onwards. Once enrolment is complete I will meet with the students to help them get started on their Volunteering, Skills and Physical Recreation Sections. Two of these activities must be for 3 months and one for 6 months at an average rate of 1 hour per week on each activity, but they don't all have to be done at the same time. Do give some thought now to what activities your son/daughter will undertake. In addition, we will have expedition training after school in the summer term of year 10, plus a 2 day activity in the local area for their qualifying expedition.

### **Does it disrupt school work?**

No. Participation in the Award gives the opportunity to develop time management skills. All activities should be undertaken in free (i.e. non-directed) time and will often be in after-school clubs, evening clubs or weekends. Since the Award is simply an extension of a young person's personal interests and activities, Award work can fit around school work or other work quite easily.



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## ***How do I get my child involved?***

Unfortunately, there is a limit to the number of students we can offer this year. We offer 40 places at Bronze level and these are issued on a first come first served basis, according to receipt of an online payment, via scopay. To reserve you please also complete the attached form and return to me. Once I have the reply form I will enrol your son/daughter electronically on the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme using the information provided by you.

If you would like your child to participate in this scheme but have financial concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at [donovank@kls.herts.sch.uk](mailto:donovank@kls.herts.sch.uk) and we shall see what support can be offered.

Yours sincerely,  
Ms Donovan  
KLS Award Leader



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