



The Green, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 3AG
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**Devizes School
 & Sixth Form College**
 Raising aspirations, building futures

September 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Duke of Edinburgh Award: Gold

Your son/daughter is being offered the opportunity to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. This is a long running award scheme that gives young people the chance to learn new skills, challenge themselves and gain further recognition for their achievements outside school. The award is recognised in the UK and around the world and many people have found that it has given them a leading edge when applying for courses and jobs. Participating in the award brings new interests, develops key skills as well as being enjoyable and memorable. Students can participate in Gold even if they have not completed the earlier awards.

There are five sections to the award: Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition and Residential. The first three sections are carried out independently but with support from staff at school. Each student will choose activities personal to them and complete an hour a week for the duration shown in the table below. The expedition is a 3-day, two-night walking and camping trip. Students will be trained in the required navigation and camping skills and will participate in a day walk and practice and assessed expeditions. The expeditions will take place between March and July 2020, dates will be confirmed as soon as they are known. For the expedition the school can provide group kit (tents, stoves, maps) and participants will have to provide their own personal kit and food. The residential will be organised and paid for individually by participants.

Gold Award Programme			
Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
12 months	6 months	6 months	Plan, train for and complete a 4 days, 3 night expedition.
All participants must undertake a further 6 months in the Physical or Skills section. If participants did not complete Silver they must complete a further 6 months one of the longer sections. Each section requires an average of one hour per week for the duration of that section			

The cost of completing the award is £375 in total, covering enrolment and the expeditions including group kit hire. Financial aid is available for students in receipt of PP.

- £75.00 Non-refundable deposit due 7th October 2019
- £100.00 Instalment 1 due 13th December 2019
- £100.00 Instalment 2 due 14th February 2020
- £100.00 Instalment 3 due 3rd April 2020

Proud to be part of The White Horse Federation Multi-Academy Trust



If you have any questions regarding the DofE Gold Award, please go to <https://www.dofe.org/doing-your-dofe/> where you will be able to find out lots about the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme. In addition, please don't hesitate to contact me at pjones@devizes.wilts.sch.uk.

Please complete and return the reply slip below and pay the deposit by 7th October. Payments should be made via the ParentPay online facility and this will include permission for your son/daughter to participate in the Award. If you have yet to activate your account or mislaid the password and user name details previously sent, please contact the school and we will email the information that you need.

Yours sincerely

Miss P Jones
OAA Coordinator

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Reply Slip: Please return to the Jones in S44 by 7th October.

Name of Student: Tutor Group:

My daughter will be/will not be participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award.

Signed: (Parent) Date: