



Headteacher
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Sandhurst School

the opportunity to succeed

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9th October 2026

Dear Parent(s),

Re: Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver Award

I am pleased to let you know that Sandhurst School will again be offering both Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE) this year. Bronze will be offered primarily to Year 9 and Silver to Year 10.

As Sandhurst School's DofE Organiser, I wanted to send you some information about what the DofE programme involves, the benefits for your child and how they can sign up.

Why Do DofE?

Doing their DofE is a brilliant way for your young person to discover just how much they are capable of. It gives young people the chance to make new friends, follow their passions, learn new skills and make a difference in our community. Achieving a DofE Award is a great way to impress employers too. And it helps young people to see themselves differently and gain a new level of confidence. We always say that after taking on your DofE, you know that whatever life throws at you, you're ready to deal with it. The DofE is non-competitive and a powerful way for every young person to build belief in themselves, whatever their background, interests and abilities.

How it works

There are three levels of DofE Award – Bronze, Silver and Gold. To achieve their Award, your young person will need to complete four sections – Volunteering, Physical, Skills and the Expedition.

Volunteering: undertake service to individuals or the community. This develops compassion, commitment and the confidence to make a difference.

Physical: improve in an area of sport, dance or fitness. This develops fitness, enjoyment and, depending on the activity, teamwork.

Skills: develop social skills and personal interests. This helps young people to realise their unique potential and gain greater self-esteem.

Expedition: plan, train for, and complete an adventurous journey in the UK. This develops teamwork and leadership, and challenges young people to push themselves beyond their perceived limits.

It will be the responsibility of the participant to find and arrange the activities that they will undertake for their volunteering, physical and skills sections. The school can offer advice, but cannot find or organise the activities on behalf of the students. Participants should also ideally choose something new to them; there is an extensive list of possible activities listed on the DofE website www.dofe.org

The participants will undertake two expeditions, a practice expedition and a qualifying expedition. The second expedition will be assessed by a Duke of Edinburgh accredited expedition assessor. There will also be an additional training session for bronze students, held in school, run by the approved activity provider. Please note the school does not provide transport to and from the expedition locations.

(Cont...)

In order to ensure that every student has the opportunity to take part, we are now in partnership with the activity provider Off grid. Please be aware that Off grid have a no phone policy for expeditions- exact arrangements for this will be discussed at a later date.

Dates for 2027

Bronze Award

Training: Saturday 6th March 2027

Practice: Friday 21st – Saturday 22nd May 2027

Assessment: Tuesday 8th - Wednesday 9th June 2027

Silver Award

Practice: Friday 21st – Sunday 23rd May 2027

Assessment: Tuesday 8th -Thursday 10th June 2027

The expedition phase is essential for students to complete in order to gain their Duke of Edinburgh award. This means commitment to the dates is essential before registration.

There are costs associated with taking part in the DofE, this will include their participation place and welcome pack, training and kit provided by the approved activity provider. Students will have to provide walking boots, outdoor clothing and miscellaneous equipment. The operational cost of running the DofE Bronze Award will be an **approximate** cost of **£250** per student and the Silver Award an **approximate** cost of **£370.00** per student, **depending on participant uptake**.

Children in receipt of Free School meals may be eligible to have some of the cost covered by the school. Please contact finance for further information.

If your son/daughter would like to participate in either the Bronze or Silver Level of the Duke of Edinburgh Award, please complete the form below and return it to school along with a deposit of **£100.00 by Friday 23rd October 2026**.

Cheques should be made payable to 'Sandhurst School Private Account'. Payment can also be made online via Scopay. The final balance will be due by **12 noon Friday 5th March 2027**.

Yours sincerely,



Miss C Heighes
Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

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Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze & Silver Award Scheme
Please return to Finance Office by Friday 23rd October 2026

Student Name: _____ Tutor Group: _____

I would like my son/daughter to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze & Silver Award Scheme. Year 9 – Bronze I enclose a deposit of **£100.00 for Bronze Award**

Year 10 – Silver I enclose a deposit of **£100.00 for Silver Award**

Signed: _____ (Parent)