



12th October 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am pleased to let you know that The Piggott School is offering the **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE)** to students in Year 9.

The DofE is a great chance for your child to broaden their horizons, discover new interests and talents, have fun with friends, develop essential skills for their future and achieve an internationally renowned Award. As Piggott's DofE Manager, I wanted to tell you some information about what a DofE programme involves, the benefits for your child and how they can sign up.

About the DofE

The DofE is non-competitive and open to all young people – it's about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries. There are three levels of the DofE programme which, when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award.

Through their DofE, students will make friends, memories and build their confidence, resilience, and independence. Participants gain skills and attributes for work and life, like problem-solving, team-working and self-motivation – and they'll achieve an Award that is recognised by employers and can help them stand out when applying for university or jobs.

The Bronze Award requires the participants to commit to a range of extra-curricular activities which are assessed in four sections: **Skills, Volunteering, Physical** and **Expedition** to be completed by July 2022.

Every young person's DofE programme is personal to them – they choose one activity per section (Skills, Volunteering and Physical), most activities can count. I will provide guidance and support, and students can either choose to continue an activity they already do or discover something new.

Activities for each section take a minimum of one hour a week over a set period of time (two activities for 3 months and one activity for 6 months), so they can fit around studying, hobbies and social lives. Once complete, they will have shown their progress, commitment, and dedication for their chosen activities. For more details about programmes and timescales visit www.DofE.org/do.

eDofE and the DofE app

Participants create their DofE programme and record their progress using eDofE, the DofE's digital system, available online at eDofE.org and through the DofE app – downloadable for free from Google Play and the App Store. If your child decides to enrol, I will set up their eDofE account and they will receive details of how to sign in and get started.



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Signing up

The cost of signing up to the DofE is £32 per participant. This covers the DofE registration fee for your child's participation place, a contribution towards the school's admin costs and DofE licence fees, and the participant's Welcome Pack, which will be sent to their home address and includes their personalised DofE Discount Card.

I will send out more information about the expedition in due course. The expedition will be run by an external provider through The Piggott School in the summer term and cost approximately £170. This will include one training day, training expedition and qualifying expedition.

If your child would like to take part, please complete and return the enclosed enrolment form (by email is acceptable, or hand in to your child's tutor), and make the payment of £32 by **Friday 5th November**. Online payment is preferred, either through the SCOPay app or via The Piggott School website (click on the 'Parents' tab - you then need to choose the 'online payments/purchasing' SCOPay option). If the cost of taking part is prohibitive, or if your child is in receipt of free school meals or pupil premium, please speak to me as there may be financial support available.

The DofE organisation are running virtual information events via MS Teams for parents and students which I would highly recommend attending. The dates and times are as follows:

- Wednesday 13th October 4.30pm-5.30pm
- Thursday 28th October 12.30pm-1.30pm

There is no need to book. Simply click this link or copy and paste into your web browser: <https://bit.ly/32UrAGu>

If you would like any further information in the meantime, please contact me. Many thanks for your support and we look forward to helping your child to achieve through their DofE.

Yours sincerely,

Rhian Cobb

DofE Manager - cobbr@piggottschool.org