



October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

A presentation has been given to all Year 10 students (during PDT) and Year 12 students (during Assembly) giving them the opportunity to apply to participate in the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award. Riddlesdown has been offering the Award for a number of years and currently has students involved at Bronze and Silver level. The presentation, this letter and an application form will be available on the Riddlesdown website by the end of this week. It is located under Curriculum – Enrichment – Duke of Edinburgh Award. If your child is interested in applying please complete the Google enrolment form (link in this letter) and the application form. The completed application form should be completed by your child and handed in to Student Services. It must not be handed to their Tutor. **The closing date for applications is Friday 11th November.** Please note that any applications received after this date will not be considered.

To apply please follow this [link](#) to the Google form.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a voluntary, non-competitive programme of practical, cultural and adventurous activities, designed to support the personal and social development of young people. It offers an individual challenge and encourages young people to undertake exciting, constructive, challenging and enjoyable things in their free time. The Award is widely recognised by educationalists and employers. Some of the benefits to young people include developing or discovering:

- A sense of achievement
- New skills and interests
- Self-confidence and self-reliance
- Leadership skills and abilities
- Exciting opportunities
- Experience of teamwork and decision making
- Enjoyment

Administrative support is provided by Mrs White who is usually the first point of contact for parents on matters concerning the Award. The Award is a national charity and whilst receiving some funding from government and commercial sources, participants support the charity through the purchase of a Welcome Pack. The cost of the Award is £90.00 and **this will only be due on acceptance onto the Award** via Parentpay and is non-refundable. This fee includes the enrolment and the welcome pack, any training required and the cost of the practice and assessed expeditions. Please note that it is not possible to hire camping/expedition equipment from school.

Key dates for the Silver Award are listed below. Please note that the training morning, practice and assessed expeditions must be attended so please check dates before applying.

Tuesday 6th December 2022 – Parents Information Evening (for those students selected): 6.30 – 7.30 pm – Main School Hall

Training Morning: Sunday 26th March 2023: School: 9 – 12pm

Practice Expedition: Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd April 2023: East Grinstead:

Assessed Expedition: Friday 29th September to Sunday 1st October 2023: South Downs

On acceptance to the Award students will be asked to choose their own expedition groups (between 4 and 7 members) and let Mrs White know in Student Services.

You can also visit the D of E website www.dofe.org for lots of useful information.

Yours sincerely

Miss J P Baker
Duke of Edinburgh's Award Leader