



Duke of Edinburgh Award Newsletter

January 2025

The DofE team here at WKGS is getting ready for a busy term of preparation for the expedition phase of all our current award levels. With the help of our Y12 Young Leader volunteers, Mrs Harris-Smith and Mrs Wright will once again be running the weekly DofE club every Thursday lunchtime in B10. This drop-in session is aimed at all students completing a bronze, silver or gold award, however Y10 Bronze Award students should be attending regularly for support with the first level of the award scheme.

We are holding a bronze information session for parents on Tuesday 28th January and Graham Seed, our expedition leader, will be on hand to explain how the expedition phase of the award works. A letter will be sent to all participants with more details about the meeting.

We are keen to build up a small stockpile of second-hand expedition equipment still in good conditions that can be loaned to current participants such as socks, rucksacks, waterproof items etc. If you have completed an award and have any of these items at home that you would like to donate, please email us on dofe@wkgs.net.

A reminder to our Y13 Gold 2023 cohort that while you remain with us at school, it would be to your advantage to work towards completing as many of your award sections as possible. Please can you log into your Gold accounts this half term to see what is still outstanding. You are welcome to come along for support on a Thursday.

Key events this term

- **Tuesday 28th January Bronze Award Information Evening for parents 6.00-7.00 pm**
- **Saturday 1st March/Sunday 2nd March Bronze Award expedition training (compulsory)**
- **Saturday 8th March Silver Award expedition training (compulsory)**
- **Drop In Support sessions for all students – every Thursday lunchtime in B10**

Expedition date reminders

- **April 4th – April 6th – Silver trial expedition**
- **April 17th – 20th – Gold qualifying expedition**
- **May 10th/11th and May 17th/18th – Bronze qualifying expeditions (2 groups)**
- **June 27th – 29th – Silver qualifying expedition**

Payment deadlines

- **Friday 31st January – Silver Award final payment due**
- **Friday 14th February – Bronze Award final payment due**
- **Friday 28th February – Gold Award final payment due**