



THE PRIORY SCHOOL

D O R K I N G

Headteacher: Mrs J Trimnell

September 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

I'm pleased to let you know that Priory School offers the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) to students in Year 9.

The DofE is a great chance for students 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.

We would like to invite you to an information meeting in the School Hall on **Wednesday 21st September at 6pm**. It is intended that both students and parents attend. The presentation will last about 40 minutes and there will be time for questions. Should you be unable to make this time, a copy of the PowerPoint will be placed on the school's website.

Please fill in the application form [here](#) and make the scopay payment, which can be completed before the meeting, if you are ready to go ahead.

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 in the DofE programme which, when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award.

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

To achieve their Bronze Award, participants must complete four sections: Volunteering, Skills, Physical and Expedition.


Every young person's DofE programme is personal to them – they can choose what they'd like to do for their Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections, and most activities can count. We will provide guidance and support, and students can either choose to continue an activity they already do or discover something completely new.


Activities for each section take a maximum of one hour a week over a set period of time, so they can fit it around studying, hobbies and social lives. For more details about programmes and timescales [see <https://www.dofe.org/do>].

About the expedition

The Expedition section involves students working as part of a small team to plan their expedition's aim and complete training to make sure they are safe and ready for their expedition. We have two training days in the Spring term, **Saturday 21st January and Saturday 4th March 2023**, both 9.30-3.00 and based in School.

 enquiries@priorycofe.com

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The practice expedition will take place **Friday 21st April – Saturday 22nd April 2023**

in the North Downs, heading in the Boxhill direction. The qualifying expedition will take place **Friday 12th - Saturday 13th May 2023** and will also be local, heading from School towards Leith Hill and back.

eDofE and the DofE app

Participants can 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.

When students decide to enrol, we will set up their eDofE account and they will receive details of how to sign in and get started.

Signing up

The cost of taking part in the DofE is £100 per student. This covers the students participation place and Welcome Pack, which will be sent to their home address and includes their personalised DofE Discount Card,.Expedition equipment can be borrowed from School at no extra cost. This includes backpacks, 3-person tents, cooking stoves (trangias), roll mats to sleep on and we have some sleeping bags and walking boots.

If your student would like to take part, please pay the **initial instalment of £50** paid on scopy by 3rd October 2022. The second instalment will be due in March 2023. The link can be found under 'Trips and Events'. Please also complete the **digital enrolment form** which is accessed by clicking on the link below.

[Enrolment form](#)

At the Priory, we would like everyone in Year 9 to have the opportunity to take part. Given the recent struggles that life has thrown at us, we feel that every student should take every opportunity. If the cost of taking part will prevent your child from taking part, please speak to myself or Ms Taylor as there may be some financial support available to you.

If you would like any further information in the meantime, please feel free to contact me.

Many thanks for your support and we look forward to helping your child to achieve through their DofE.



Mrs Tanton

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