



HILL HOUSE SCHOOL

RF/vm

5 July 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Introduction to Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award

Your son/daughter is going to be the correct age to complete their Duke of Edinburgh Silver award during the academic year 2019 - 2020. This letter is an overview as to what the award entails.

All communication about the expedition will be delivered to the students directly during the activity slot. Other than letters just prior to the expedition with camp site details and emergency contacts, we rely on the participants to organise their kit, food and routes themselves without their parents help, other than perhaps a lift to the supermarket.

Why do Duke of Edinburgh?

Your son/daughter will enjoy lots of new experiences, discover talents that they never thought they had and challenge themselves. The Silver award will give the student skills, confidence and view on life that everyone is looking for, from employers to universities. They will make a difference to other people's lives and their communities, be fitter and healthier, make new friends and have memories to last them a life time.

The student needs to plan a programme for 3 sections independent of our activity slot which are:

The Skills Section: 3/6/12 months

Developing a skill which helps the student get better at something they are really interested in and gives the student the confidence and ability to use this skill both now and later in life.

The Physical Section: 3/6/12 months

Students should select an activity they find fun as it also improves their health and physical fitness in readiness for the expeditions.

The Volunteering Section: 6/12 months

This gives the student the chance to make a difference to people's lives and use their skills and experience to help their local community. Your son/daughter can use this opportunity to become involved in a project or with an organisation that they care about.

The expedition stage, 3 days and 2 nights practice and the same for the qualifying expedition. We will use the Tuesday activity slot 4-5pm to prepare and train for this event.

The dates for the expeditions in 2019 are:

Gold and Silver Day walk – Peak District: Saturday 28 March 2020

Silver practice – White Peak: 8 - 10 May 2020

Silver Qualifier – Nidderdale: 5 - 7 June 2020

We ask therefore to keep the dates available for your son/daughter to complete this section of the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. Failure to attend these weekends will result in your son/daughter not achieving to award no matter what the reason is for their absence. The Duke of Edinburgh award will be around £240 depending on how many sign up to the award, billed over 3 terms.

If your son/daughter is interested in completing Silver Duke of Edinburgh award scheme they will be required to select Friday 4-5pm activity slot in September 2019. We would like you to buy a Silva compass over the summer holidays to help in our navigation and route planning session.

Please complete the electronic reply slip to confirm that your son/daughter wishes to join the Duke of Edinburgh and agree to £80 being added to your termly bill.

Yours faithfully

Mrs R Frisby
Manager of Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme