



Sherburn High School



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11th July 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme – Silver Award

We are pleased to let you know that we intend to offer the Silver Award over the course of the next 12 months. 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 DofE Coordinator, we wanted to send 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 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 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.

Students do not need to have completed the Bronze Award to register at Silver. It is possible to start the Silver Award if any section has been started at Bronze level. The Bronze and Silver Awards can then be run together, but a section must be completed at the Bronze level before it can be started at the Silver level.

For students who have not done the Bronze Award, they will begin the Silver Award as a direct entrant, register as new and must complete an additional 6 months of activity on one of the longer sections they choose. So, they can still do Silver – it will just take a bit longer.

Expedition Dates

The Silver package consists of registration, a 2 day, 2-night practice expedition and a 3 day, 2-night qualifying expedition.

The dates in the table below are fixed and students should not enrol onto the award if they cannot commit to them. Students must undertake both the practice and qualifying expeditions to complete the section.

12-14 th April, 2025	Year 10 Silver Practice Expedition	PYBUS N. Y. Moors
22-24 th June 2025	Year 10 Silver Qualifying Expedition	Farndale, North York Moors

There will also be an afterschool meeting to form walking groups and discuss the expedition programme once registration has closed. More information will be sent out at a later date with regards to this.



Signing up

The total cost for registration, administration, training, insurance and provision of transport/personnel for completing both expeditions will be in the region of £400 and to make paying easier and faster, all payments will be collected via ParentPay which can be accessed on the school website or you can visit www.parentpay.com. The registration fee of £50 is included in the total cost and covers the cost of the welcome pack (registration onto eDofE & student log book), insurance and school's administration fees and is **non-refundable**. The remaining costs, which have not yet been confirmed, cover tuition, transport by minibus, use of equipment, fuel, appropriate external supervision and external assessment. Once the final cost of the expeditions has been confirmed, this will be payable on ParentPay. The final cost must be paid by **Friday 6th June 2025** and student's accounts must be up to date to allow them to participate on the expeditions. Financial support may be available for students eligible for free school meals. For further information on this, please contact us via our email at dofe@shs.starmat.uk.

The expeditions are supervised remotely using checkpoints and visits and staff camp on the same campsites as the groups. Photographs may be taken for promotional purposes such as the school's website. If you do not want that to happen, then please let us know by adding a comment to the enrolment form.

We will commence the expedition training in April 2025 but students will be enrolled onto the scheme as soon as they sign up and any section activities that they may have already been doing will count from when their bronze section was completed. It is hoped that many students will see the benefits of the award programme and commit to completing the Silver Level. If you would like your child to confirm their place on the award please complete the slip below, log onto ParentPay and pay the registration fee of £50. Please also complete the attached DofE enrolment form and medical forms. To speed up registration, you can take a picture or a scan of the completed forms and email them to us at dofe@shs.starmat.uk. Alternatively, forms can be dropped off at school reception. The closing date for applications is **Friday 27th September 2024**.

If you have any questions we can be contacted via this email at dofe@shs.starmat.uk. For further information on the award please visit www.dofe.org.

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

Yours sincerely

Miss H Shanks and Ms L Jackson
DofE Coordinators

Year 10 Silver DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD REGISTRATION SHS

Student's Name: _____ Form _____

I wish my child to register for The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award.

Parent/Carer's Name: _____ Signed: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Carer's email (for communication purposes)

Checklist:

- Enrolment Form enclosed.
- Consent and Medical Fitness Form for Residential Visits enclosed.

Please return to the Main Office by Friday 15th November 2024