



19 January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 10 Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award

Thank you for completing the Microsoft Form to register your interest in the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award. We are delighted to tell you that your application has been successful and once you have paid your £40 deposit via ParentPay, you will have secured your child a place on the award.

The award requires students to complete the four sections: Physical, Volunteering, Skills and Expedition. Students are expected to find their own activities for the Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections. Some students may already be doing activities, such as football, playing an instrument or supporting a Scout/Guide group that would count as part of each of these sections.

Both the volunteering and another section need to be completed for 6 months for 1 hour a week. The third section needs to be completed for 3 months for 1 hour a week. If a student has not completed the Bronze DofE Award, they are still able to complete Silver but must complete a further 6 months in one of the 6-month sections (so 12 months in volunteering, or the longer of the physical and skills).

Progress towards the award will be logged via the eDofE app which students will have access to after enrolment and allows their assessors for each section to upload a report. If a student has started Bronze and not finished it, it should be signed off within the first few months of starting Silver. Please find more information on the [DofE website](#).

Once we have received the deposit, eDofE accounts will be set up for students which logs their progress through the award online and allows their assessors for each section to upload a report. Assessors must be different for each section, over 18 and not a family member. Students should contact assessors before starting the section checking they are happy to be the assessor. This includes writing a 5-10 min report at the end of the section via the following link: [Assessor's Report - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award](#)

The expedition section will be run via the school while the other three sections are for students to complete independently. The practice expedition will run from **Friday 19 June to Sunday 21 June 2026 in the Surrey Hills**. The qualifying expedition will take place from **Friday 25 September to Sunday 27 September 2026** in the New Forest. For both expeditions, students will be walking for at least four hours a day and camping in two or



three person tents in the countryside with basic facilities. They must hike with all their equipment for the weekend and complete a small project as part of the expedition which can be chosen by the group. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is inclusive and recognises not all students are able to meet these demands, therefore, expeditions can be adapted to the individual's needs, allowing all students the opportunity to take part and gain the award. Please ensure before enrolling that your child is available for both the practice and final expedition as there will not be another opportunity during the year. Please note, students will be out of lessons all day on Friday for both expeditions, and it is their responsibility to catch up on any missed schoolwork. Coach travel will be provided for both expeditions and is included in the cost of the trip.

During the second and third day of the practice expedition and the whole final expedition, your son/daughter will be remotely supervised by the accompanying staff. We will issue them with a mobile phone number, a map, a compass and a route with instructions designed by the students themselves. Each group will have a tracker which allows staff to monitor progress and ensure the safety of students while they are remotely supervised. The students will meet up at the campsite/destination for a final register before parent or carer collection.

The cost to formally enrol your son/daughter to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award will be £180. This is subject to change depending on final booking costs. This price includes participation fees, expedition fees and a welcome pack that will be sent to you via post, also accompanied with a DofE discount card offering 10% off all purchases at Millets, Blacks and Go Outdoors. The cost will be split into two payments. **The first non-refundable payment of £40 is required by Monday 26 January**, covers enrolment and participation fees. The second payment of approximately £140 will cover both the practice and final expeditions of a 2 night and 3-day adventure and will be due in the Spring term, 2025. If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium funding, you can request a contribution towards the expedition costs via a.caldwell@maidenerleghtrust.org.

If your child is unable to attend this trip due illness, unfortunately we are unable to guarantee a refund, however we will endeavour to offer a full/partial refund if;

- Another student replaces your child's place on the trip
- The school is able to agree a full/partial refund from external agencies with whom the trip is booked

We do have a range of kit to support students, including rucksacks, boots, underlayers, jackets if your child requires kit. Where possible we will be asking for students to purchase personal kit for the expedition, i.e. backpack, sleeping bags, roll mats, shoes, clothing, appropriate food and drink. Tents and cooking equipment will be provided for students. Should you be entitled to Pupil Premium funding, there will be limited kit available to hire should this be needed. Please discuss this with your child's group leader once allocated. A full kit list required for the DofE expedition can be found [here](#).

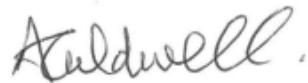


Please note that representing the school on a trip, fixture or at an event is a privilege and we reserve the right to withdraw that privilege for students who are persistently late to school or lessons, do not follow our uniform or behaviour policies or bring the school into disrepute in any way.

Please direct any questions regarding the award to a.caldwell@maidenerleghtrust.org .

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Caldwell
Duke of Edinburgh Manager

