



Barr Beacon School  
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

Our Ref: LD/JP/cc/DofE Award/Year 10

29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Duke of Edinburgh Award**

I write to update you on your child's Duke of Edinburgh Award. We are planning for the expeditions to take place on the below dates:

#### **Practice Expeditions – also acts as Bronze assessed expedition for selected pupils**

- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 – Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2021 - Clent Hills

#### **Assessed Expeditions**

- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021 – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021 - Long Mynd

We are intending to camp overnight on both expeditions, providing the government and Duke of Edinburgh Award guidelines permit this. If the guidelines do not allow overnight stays but do let schools continue with all other aspects of the expedition, then we will continue with the weekend without the camping element. The areas we visit are subject to change depending on any restrictions in place at the time of the expeditions.

The kit and food requirements needed for the expeditions can be found on the below link:

<https://www.dofe.org/shopping/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Expedition-Kit-Guide-October-2020.pdf>.

Please remember that the school will provide cooking equipment and tents for pupils to use.

Next week, pupils will receive an email from Sergeant Bew inviting them to join a Microsoft Team's meeting in March 2021. The meeting will provide pupils with information on route planning, volunteering, physical and skills sections, as well as advice for developing their fitness before the expeditions.

All pupils must ensure that they have completed their voluntary, physical and skill sections of their eDofE account. Each section must also have been approved before June 2021. If your child has not completed these sections, then they will not be able to go on the expeditions. It is pivotal that pupils follow the DofE guidelines on their chosen activities and when each section is finished, they upload an assessor's report completed correctly and not by a family member. For more information, please visit this link: <https://www.dofe.org/assessor/>.



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All pupils who signed up to the Bronze Award last academic year who do not want to complete the Silver expedition, but do want to complete their Bronze Award, will go on the Clent Hill expedition. The £50 they have already paid covers the cost of this.

Bronze participants, who decided to go onto the Silver Award, will pay a total cost of £125 for both awards combined. Any parent/carer who paid the full amount for the Bronze Award of £125 last academic year will not be required make any further payment for Silver Award. After both expeditions, providing your child has completed their physical, volunteering and skills sections for both their Bronze and Silver DofE Awards, they will then achieve the certificate for each.

First time participants who have gone direct to the Silver award will only be required to pay £75 and will complete both expeditions. Please note that as they are only completing their physical, volunteering and skills sections for their Silver DofE Award, they will achieve just the Silver Award at the end.

The deadline for any remaining balances is **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021**. If your child is in receipt of free school meals, they are not required to pay this.

If the expeditions are unable to take place all money paid will be reimbursed, apart from the starter pack cost of £22 for both the Bronze and Silver Awards, as we have already paid for these. Please note that even if expeditions were cancelled and you are refunded, as we have given your child a starter pack they will still be fully registered as a Duke of Edinburgh Award participant and have complete access to their eDofE account.

If pupils have questions about their award, please ask them to email Sergeant Bew. Alternatively, you can contact the school on 0121 366 6600 and ask to speak to Mr Phillips (Deputy Headteacher) or email [postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk](mailto:postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk).

Yours sincerely

Ms L Draycott  
Headteacher



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