



Dear Parent / Carer,

It is with great pleasure that I am writing to inform you that we are offering the opportunity to complete the prestigious Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award with us.

We will have an information and recruiting stand at the upcoming 'Fresher's Fair' for the sixth form.

As many of you will be aware, DofE offers unique opportunities to develop new skills, make new friends and learn about themselves in challenging and adventurous environments.

To achieve the Award students have to complete five sections: learning a new skill, volunteering, engaging in a physical activity and an expedition in wild country, they must also complete a residential project.

.Those who have already **completed** their Silver Award carry forward a time credit of six months for their Gold.

DofE allows each participant to create their own personalised set of activities to contribute towards their achievement. They may already do many of these activities or they could try something new that they had always wanted to. Either way, it is fun and highly regarded internationally. Please look at the website <http://www.dofe.org/take-part> to find out more about the award.

### Achieving a Duke of Edinburgh Award looks great on a CV!

A recent study showed that the top 100 employers across the UK considered the Duke of Edinburgh's Award the most important non-curriculum activity. The award helps to build on all the soft skills that will make your son/daughter stand out from the crowd in this ever competitive world and should help them to achieve the success that they deserve. Informally the DofE Gold Award is titled the 'Golden A Level' and is often a talking point at university interviews and a major component of UCAS personal statements.

Students have been provided with two application forms and a medical consent/declaration form. These must be signed by a parent/carer and must be returned by **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016** to the DofE Office situated in the school medical centre in an envelope entitled "DofE Gold".

There will be an enrolment fee of **£25.00** to be paid via parent pay. In addition there is the cost of the expeditions which are outlined on the expedition information page. Please note that any money paid is non-refundable once your child has embarked on the award.

There is some financial support available for students who are unable to meet the full costs of the award, so please contact us in the DofE office where we can talk to you about your situation in confidence

Please find enclosed an application form, expedition section information, key dates and a medical declaration form.

We do hope that you encourage your son/daughter to take part in the DofE and wish them every success in their efforts to achieve it.

Yours faithfully

Mr Paul Bond  
Duke of Edinburgh's Award Manager  
[DofE@graveney.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:DofE@graveney.wandsworth.sch.uk)  
020 8682 5674



## Gold Award 2016 – 2017 Key Dates

EVENT	DATE
Hand back all registration forms	By Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2016
<b>Parents Evening &amp; Kit Talk (7-8.30 pm)</b>	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2017
<b>Deadline</b> to finish your first DofE Section (and have it entered on EDofE)	By Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2016
<b>Training Day &amp; Practice Expeditions</b>	
Training Day	Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2017
Practice Expedition	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2017 – Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2017
<b>Qualifying Assessed Expedition</b>	
	Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July 2016

### Morocco 2017 participants

**Need to attend the training day & practice expedition as their qualifying expedition will take place on the Morocco trip**

### All other participants

**Need to attend training, practice and the qualifying Expedition.**

Participants are expected to progress through the programme as detailed above. **Failure to work to these timelines will mean students will be unable to go on the expeditions.**

**Participants who are not ready to progress to the qualifying expedition will be required to complete another practice expedition which may run alongside the qualifying expedition or at a future date.**

Please note the date of the Parents information evening and we look forward to meeting you then.

The DofE team can be contacted on 0208 682 5676 / [DofE@graveney.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:DofE@graveney.wandsworth.sch.uk) or found in their office in the Medical Centre. *Please be aware the office is not staffed full time.*

# The Expedition Section at Gold

**Practice Expedition 3 Days and 2 nights in Wild Country (Snowdonia, Dartmoor, Brecon Beacons etc)**

**Qualifying Expedition 4 Days and 3 Nights in Wild Country with 8 Hours of planned activity (walking and project work)**

The training and practice expeditions are in place so that they have the necessary skills to complete the externally assessed qualifying expedition successfully.

Participants are formed into teams and there is a need for them to work as a group independently preparing and planning routes, menus and kit for the expeditions

Note that participants on expeditions are **remotely supervised**. This means that expedition teams are met during the expedition at key points and at campsites but essentially they are self contained and not accompanied by leaders. This is a formula that has been successful since the inception of the DofE in 1956 and over 1.5 million young people have taken part since.

Expeditions are of course planned to be outside the public examination timetable.

We will conduct a meeting with the sixth form once they have signed up. We will also outline our expectations of the preparation (route planning etc.) as this will be completed independently (with appropriate guidance).

To ensure adequate risk management and to comply with current best practice staff: to student ratios concerning remote supervision, the school has to engage the services of appropriately qualified and experienced instructors at cost. However we have kept the costs to a minimum and compared to external agencies and other schools we are significantly cheaper.

## Costs:

**Practice Expedition £180.00 (4 Days)**

**Qualifying Expedition £225.00 (5 Days)**

Price includes: Training day, , provision of specialist staff, campsite fees, maps and assessor fees. Tents, stoves and rucksacks.

**Price does not include:** food during the expedition or **transport to the venues** - however if there are sufficient numbers we will examine whether coach travel is an option and that cost will need to be met additionally.

Participants will need to supply well fitting walking boots and waterproof clothing; we do have a limited amount of waterproofs to loan.

There is financial support available, please do not hesitate to contact us to find out more.

## Graveney Duke of Edinburgh's Award Parental Consent and Medical Information

For: \_\_\_\_\_ (Print Child's Name)

### 1. Medical Information about your child

Does s/he suffer from any ailment or disability, e.g. diabetes, epilepsy, asthma, hay fever, migraine etc? If so please give details. **Yes/No**

Does s/he take any regular medication or is s/he receiving medical treatment at present? If so, please give details. **Yes/No**

Has s/he been in contact with or suffered from any contagious diseases within the last 4 weeks? If so, please give details. **Yes/No**

Is s/he allergic to anything, (e.g. antibiotics, aspirin, particular food or insects)? If so, please give details. **Yes/No**

Does s/he have any specific dietary requirements, e.g. vegetarian, diabetic, religious etc.? If so, please specify. **Yes/No**

Has s/he received a tetanus injection within the past 5 years? **Yes/No**

Has s/he had any serious illnesses or operations in the last 3 years? If yes, please give details. **Yes/No**

### 2. Medical Declaration

I agree to my son/daughter receiving medication as instructed and any emergency dental, medical or surgical treatment, including anaesthetic or blood transfusion, as considered necessary by the medical authorities present.

I undertake to inform the DofE Manager as soon as possible of any change to the medical circumstances between the date signed and the commencement of the expedition(s).

I consent to my child receiving painkillers, such as paracetamol, from members of staff if it becomes necessary.

**I understand that if my child has prescribed medication then they MUST take this on the expedition(s) e.g. asthma inhalers, hayfever medication, epipens.**

Parent/carer signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name (PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_



## DofE Gold AWARD 2016 – 2017 REGISTRATION FORM Pt1

Student Name (in Capitals): \_\_\_\_\_ Form: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the cover letter and key information and would like my son/daughter to sign up for the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award. In agreeing to them doing the award I understand and agree to all of the following:

1. I have visited the DofE website and understand the commitment needed ([www.dofe.org](http://www.dofe.org)).
2. I understand the deadlines to complete each activity and will make sure my son/daughter plans to meet them.
3. I understand they must attend all training and is unlikely to be allowed to come on the expeditions if they miss any.
4. I understand that school rules regarding behaviour apply in training sessions and on expedition and that Graveney may send (or ask you to collect at your expense) my child home from events if their behaviour is not appropriate.
5. I understand that they must come into school the day after expedition if required.

**ParentPay** is the ONLY method of payment.

- I have made a payment of **£25** via ParentPay for the enrolment fee (non refundable)
- I would like to make payment in 2 instalments for the Expedition Fees. *(We will contact you soon with further details)*

For further information regarding ParentPay please contact Susannah Gregory-Cullen at [sgregory-cullen@graveney@graveney.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:sgregory-cullen@graveney@graveney.wandsworth.sch.uk)

Parent/Carer Consent: \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

Parent/Carer Name (In capitals): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer email address (essential): \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please write very clearly in capitals)*

Alternative email address: \_\_\_\_\_

We send all correspondence by email in an effort to support our sustainable school status. If your email address changes at all during the year please let us know ASAP.

## DofE Gold AWARD 2016 – 2017 REGISTRATION FORM Pt.2

Please print clearly in CAPITALS. You must complete all the questions.

### Personal details

First name:	Address 1:
Last name:	Address 2:
Date of Birth:	Address 3:
Gender: Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Postcode:
Email:	Telephone no (home):

Next of kin name:
Relationship to next of kin:
Next of kin emergency contact telephone:

### Consent to enrol from parent or guardian (if applicant is under 18 years old).

I agree to my son / daughter / ward doing a DofE programme.

I consent to photographic images of him/her being used on a not for profit basis solely for promotional purposes.

	Print Name	Signature	Date
Parent/guardian:			
I agree to enrol as a participant on a DofE programme. I understand I will be doing the programme using the online eDofE system and that I will comply with the terms and conditions which will be available when I access eDofE.			
Applicant:			

### For Operating Authority/Centre administration only

Date registered onto eDofE	/ /
Participant Fee received	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Username	
Initial password	