



The Banovallum School

Aim, Aspire, Achieve

Wednesday 23rd May 2018

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD: BRONZE

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are writing to invite your son/daughter to apply for a place on The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme (DoE) at Banovallum School, to complete their Bronze award during their year 9. The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is a prestigious opportunity to be part of and is regarded by many employers, colleges and universities as an important aspect in their selection of candidates.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme consists for 4 sections; physical, voluntary, skills and the expedition. The first three need to be completed prior to the expedition which will happen during the last term before the summer holidays in 2018.

Of the three sections; physical, voluntary and skills, one needs to be completed over a 6 month period (**24 sessions, each at least 1 hour/week**) whilst the remaining two need to be over a 3 month period each (**12 sessions, each at least 1 hour/week**).

There is a powerpoint presentation to explain how The Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme works, on the school's website; look under the tab for parents, where you will see the Duke of Edinburgh page. There is also a copy of the application form.

To complete the form you child must

- write a summary about themselves; hobbies, interests, etc
- what qualities they think would be good to have to do DoE
- Write a short summary of where they think they may have shown some of these qualities

The table needs to have a rough idea of what they intend to do to complete their Bronze DoE; what activity they will be doing and who they think could be their assessor. The assessor cannot be parent or someone there are related to, but if they intend on doing cooking at home as a skill, Mrs Ashford at school is usually happy to sign off as an assessor (please get your child to ask her permission first).

As a parent of a child considering to take part in DoE Bronze award, please be aware of the following tips if they are accepted onto the award scheme through Banovallum School (they will be informed from Monday 4th June);

- Their Bronze DoE will not start until September 2018.

The Banovallum School Academy Trust
Boston Road, Horncastle, Lincolnshire • LN9 6DA • Head Teacher: Mr G Edgar BA (Hons.), Dip. Ed.
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- Each section will require your child to attend/complete sessions in their chosen activity for at least 1 hour per week.
- Your child and the mentor/assessor need to agree on several goals to achieve and record these on the cover sheet for that section prior to starting.
- Session dates need to be recorded on the logbook sheet, a short description of what they have done, the duration and signed.
- Their mentor/assessor will need to sign off the section upon completion of the chosen timeframe on the **cover sheet for that section**, below the goals.
- The chosen activities **cannot** be repeated e.g. horse-riding for physical and for skills, or dance for voluntary and for physical.

I would also like to draw your attention to the expedition section. This is a 2 day event, where the participants will need to carry all of their own equipment; tent, clothing, food and cooking stoves. The journey time each day is a minimum of 6 hours. This means that they will be walking ~15km or ~10miles per day, therefore a total of 30km or 20miles over the 2 days. This obviously means that participants need to be fit. Some students have wisely chosen to use the gym and fitness for their physical section to ensure that they acquire the fitness to complete the expedition. Horncastle Fitness Suite (next to the swimming pool) runs a Fitness Academy - a class that runs on Tuesday and Thursday from 4-5pm for students ages 11-16yrs, £2.70 per session.

They must complete a practice expedition, usually about 4-6 weeks prior to the Qualifying expedition. Equipment can be borrowed from Banovallum School prior to the expeditions.

If accepted onto the scheme, the fee for joining the Duke of Edinburgh Award is £25, which is non-refundable. I have also charged £15 for their expedition section, bringing the total to £40. Payment for this can be made via ParentPay. If you have lost your details or require assistance for logging into ParentPay please contact the Schools' Finance Office. The deadline for the payment is **Sunday 24th June 2018**.

Thank you again for your support of the Award Scheme, and if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me on the school number.

Yours sincerely,

Ynske Fawcett

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme Manager at Banovallum School