

September 2024

Dear parent or carer

I am writing as your child has expressed interest in participating in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award this year. The Award is open to all students in Year 9, and should take around one year to complete if they keep up to date with everything. It is a nationally recognised Award programme, allowing them to demonstrate their competence in teambuilding, resilience, confidence, and leadership, which are all highly valued skills by colleges, apprenticeship programmes and employers in the future.

The Award is split into four sections: Volunteering, Physical, Skill and Expedition. For the first three, students must participate in one hour of activity per week for each section, for three months. These can be done simultaneously or consecutively. For one of these three sections, it must be extended to one hour per week for six months, and the student can choose which one. Students can start these sections as soon as they wish, and they will be given a login for the eDofE Portal in the next few weeks, where they will log evidence that they are completing each section.

For the Expedition section, we will be completing this in June 2025. The Expedition will take place at a weekend and will require 2 days of walking with one-night camping in between. Before the students are allowed to go on the Expedition, there are some requirements that must be met:

1. They have started all three of the Volunteering, Physical and Skill sections of the Award
2. They have attended the required training sessions in school to ensure they are upskilled in route planning, first aid, tent building, and cooking safety. These sessions will take place after school from 3:30pm – 4:30pm on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, after Christmas. The same session will be repeated on each day of the week, so students only need to attend one. When submitting their interest, students have already selected a day/days that is convenient to them, and full timetables will be sent out via form tutors when groups have been made

For the Expedition section, some equipment will be required to be purchased. You should receive a Welcome Pack through the post which has a kit list in it from the DofE Organisation. This kit list is *very extensive*, and not all of the equipment on the list is necessary. We will be sending out our own equipment list in due course which is more realistic, so please do not start buying anything yet. We also have a healthy stock of a lot of equipment that we supply all students with, and some that we can loan to students if you feel they may only use it for the Expedition weekend, and would not use again. Details of all of this will be sent out in due course.

The cost of the Award programme is **£38.00**, which includes £28.00 for the students DofE account to be created, and contribution towards the cost of the campsite and equipment. **Payment is required by Friday 4th October 2024**, and the reply slip below must be completed and returned to Mr Briggs in Room 25 by the same date. Our preferred method of payment is online via your child's SCOPAY account. Alternatively, your contribution should be put in an envelope with your child's name and form on. This envelope along with the reply slip should be placed in the Finance Box which is located next to Student Services. Payments may be made in cash or by cheque; cheques should be made payable to **Cansfield**. Unfortunately, this payment is **non-refundable**, as we will be purchasing the places from the DofE very soon after money is received, and we cannot get a refund for these. If you are struggling to fund this, then please contact me as soon as possible to discuss using the information at the end of this letter. Similarly, if you require an extension to this payment deadline, please get in touch as we can reserve places for around a week or two.

Headteacher: Mrs N Daniels

Cansfield, Old Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Wigan. WN4 9TP

Telephone: 01942 727391

email: enquiries@admin.cansfield.wigan.sch.uk web: www.cansfield.wigan.sch.uk

We are also planning to hold a Parent Engagement Evening in October, where you are welcome to come along to meet some students that have previously completed the Award, hear what is expected of the students, how you can support them, and what we do to support them in achieving the Award. Students are also welcome. This will take place on **Wednesday 16th October 2024** where you can meet students, talk to staff and get a tea or coffee from 5:30pm, with the talk starting at 6:15pm. If you plan on attending this meeting, please complete the form by following the link or scanning the QR code below by Friday 11th October.

Form link: <https://s.surveyplanet.com/zqxj37un>



If you have any questions relating to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, please feel free to contact me at t.briggs@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk or Mr Critchley at w.critchley@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk, and please also visit the links below for useful information regarding the Award scheme.

For parent/carer information: <https://www.dofe.org/do/parents/>

For further information on the four sections: <https://www.dofe.org/do/sections/>

For ideas for each section: <https://www.dofe.org/do/ideas/>

Kind Regards



Mr T Briggs
Head of Geography & Life Studies / DofE Lead

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PLEASE RETURN TO MR BRIGGS – Room 25

STUDENT NAME: _____ **FORM:** _____

I am happy for my child _____ in form _____ to participate in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. I also understand that in order to participate in the Award, they must display consistent good behaviour in school throughout the year, in order to show trustworthiness to complete a remotely supervised Expedition.

I have paid £38.00 on SCOPAY

I enclose £38.00 in cash/cheque

Signed: _____ Print name: _____