

October 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Duke of Edinburgh Award Information Evening Wednesday 10th October 2018 6:30-7:30pm

The **Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme** is the world's leading achievement award for young people, and is highly regarded by Universities, Colleges and Employers. It encourages young people to develop independence, commitment, leadership and teamwork through being involved in a personalised programme of activities.

Your son/daughter has expressed an interest in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at Ellis Guilford School. The Award is split into four sections; **Volunteering, Physical Activity, Skill, and Expedition**. It takes approximately 12 months to complete the Bronze award and requires regular commitment to various activities.

We will be hosting an **Information evening at Ellis Guilford on Wednesday 10th October 2018 from 6:30-7:30pm**, so please do come along to hear more about the programme, receive an information pack, meet the staff involved in running it, and ask any questions.

At Ellis Guilford the award is open to anyone in Yr9. However, places on the scheme will be awarded to those pupils who have expressed an interest, demonstrated a commitment to completing the sections and handed in complete permission slips and deposits.

Volunteering, Skill and Physical Section

Your son/daughter will be supported in finding ways to fulfil the Volunteering, Physical and Skill section of the award. Please see the Duke of Edinburgh Award website: www.dofe.org for more information about each section.

Expedition Section

The Expedition section requires participants to undertake a challenging:

- **8th/9th June 2019:** Two day training expedition: participants will receive high level training in camp craft, navigation and hiking from qualified mountain leaders.
- **29th/30th June 2019:** Two day hiking and camping practice expedition.
- **13th/14th July 2019:** Two day assessed hiking and camping qualifying expedition.

The expeditions will take place over a series of weekends in the summer term. Information regarding the dates will be provided at the information evening. To provide the Duke of Edinburgh expeditions we are partnering with an organisation called KAROS Adventure who are specialists in outdoor expeditions and provide qualified mountain leaders.

Headteacher. **Dr Sally Coulton**

Attached is an initial permission form that will need to be completed before students register for the award. The form needs to be signed and returned to me. A **non-refundable** deposit of **£40** needs to be returned by Friday 19th October 2018, either by cheque (made payable to Ellis Guilford School) or cash.

The total cost is estimated to be **£120**. This will cover registration, training, instructors, insurance, and campsite fees for all the training and expeditions.

Please do contact me if costs are a concern as the school is able to offer financial assistance in some circumstances. If your child receives **pupil premium** funding the cost of your child participating in the scheme will be **£40**.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Parekh
DofE Coordinator

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Please complete the permission slip and return to **Mr Parekh** by **Friday 19th October 2018**

I enclose a cheque/cash for £40 non-refundable deposit made payable to Ellis Guilford School Y/N

I give my son/daughter permission to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh award 2018-2019.

Students full name (CAPITALS)..... Tutor group.....

Parent/Guardian full name (CAPITALS).....

Parent/Guardian Signature..... Date.....

Headteacher. **Dr Sally Coulton**

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