



LYDIARD PARK ACADEMY

6th October 2017

Dear Parent or Carer,

DUKE OF EDINBURGH SILVER AWARD

Your child has shown an interest in joining our Duke of Edinburgh (D of E) Silver Award group. This is an internationally recognised award for young people, designed to encourage them to develop independence, commitment, leadership and teamwork through being involved in a personalised programme of activities. There are 4 sections to the Award; Volunteering, Physical, Skill, and Expedition. It takes approximately 9 - 12 months to complete and requires regular commitment to the various activities. In school we will focus on the Expedition Section, while supporting your son's/daughter's choice and completion of the other 3 sections.

There are some costs involved in completing the Silver award;

- D of E registration fee £25.00, this is non-refundable and is due by Monday 30th October 2017. This covers the cost of registering your child with the D of E scheme and purchasing the participation pack.
- The practice expedition and assessed expedition will cost an additional £100 and this is due by Friday 9th February 2018. This covers the cost of camp site fees; consumables (Trangia fuel)/kit hire or replacement/first aid; minibus petrol and parking plus staff and administration costs.

Financial support may be available in certain cases. Please contact me at school if you would like to discuss this further. Information will be sent home in Spring 2018 outlining the exact dates, but for your planning we aim to do the 3 days/2 nights' practice expedition in Wiltshire over a weekend in mid-May and the qualifying expedition will be mid-week on Exmoor in late June. This will require an extra night away (4 days/3 nights) as we need to travel into the area the day before the expedition starts. Participants will be expected to have their own personal kit, whilst school will provide tents and cooking equipment. Many outdoor retailers offer discounts for Duke of Edinburgh Award participants.

As your child has completed or almost completed the Bronze level you are already aware of the types of activities that are suitable for the Volunteering, Skill and Physical Sections. I can help with suggestions for these sections; however, your child will be responsible for arranging and completing these activities. We will start fortnightly D of E meetings on a Wednesday after school for the Silver group from December. These sessions are a chance to refresh map reading and navigation skills, socialize as a team and practice first aid. As well as an opportunity for me to check how they are progressing with the other three sections.



Executive Principal: Mr C Zimmerman
Operational Principal: Mr G Pearson
Vice Principal: Miss S Hesten

Grange Park Way, Grange Park, Swindon, SN5 6HN
Tel: 01793 874224 Fax: 01793 876274
Ask@lydiardparkacademy.org.uk



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If you have any questions, please contact me at school. Otherwise, if your child still wants to join D of E again, please go to ParentPay to make the necessary payments.

Yours sincerely,

Vinny Colley
Silver D of E Coordinator



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