



Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) 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.

As DofE coordinator I believe this is an excellent opportunity for the students at Branston. They must volunteer their time, take part in a physical activity and learn a skill as well as taking part in a practice and qualifying overnight camping expedition. This is not a "taught" award, the students need to be motivated self-starters but we will train and support them for their expedition. To find out more about the award see: <https://www.dofe.org/what-is-dofe>.

The sign-up cost to participate at Branston is £90 for Bronze and £90 for Silver. This covers a registration fee to the charity and the costs associated with expeditions, but does not include personal kit such as walking boots, water-proofs etc. although we do have a good selection of kit to lend out. Funding is available for some students. There is also the option for Y12 students to do direct to Silver if they have not already completed Bronze but with an extended duration.

If you feel your son/daughter would be interested, please fill in and return the application form below by Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> of October (paper copies available from myself in room S5). There will be an information evening for parents and students on Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> September to let you know more about the award and to answer any questions. After this, payment can be made on Parent Pay.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please get in contact with myself through the BCA website.

R. Ritchie  
DofE Co-ordinator