

September 2020

Dear Parents and Pupils

### Duke of Edinburgh's Award (Bronze) Uffculme School

We are very proud of our commitment to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme at Uffculme School and the large number of pupils that have achieved the award over the years: we are now one of the biggest providers in the South West. It is a challenging programme which is held in high regard by colleges, universities and employers, and students who achieve this award are recognised for their continued commitment in several different areas including a **skill**, a **physical activity**, **volunteering** and completion of a two-day overnight **expedition**.

The Award was launched to Year 9 students during assembly this week when they were given details of what it will entail. It is important to remember that the Award is designed for students to take full responsibility for each of the sections. We are of course able to give help and advice on appropriate activities. Once students are enrolled on the DofE Award they can start their activities, **at least one, preferably two, of which should be completed by Easter 2021**.

The expedition section of the Award is run by the school. Students are required to plan for an expedition, including route planning, kit preparation, meal planning and then walking the route. They must take part in a training expedition over a weekend in June 2021 and an assessed expedition as they start Year 10 in September 2021.

In summary, to complete the Award at Uffculme, pupils must be able to commit to the following:

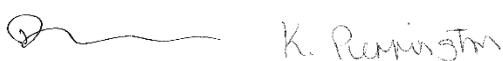
- Pay an enrolment fee of **£75** (some financial assistance may be available).
- Log in and activate their eDofE account within 10 days of being issued with their login details.
- **Complete at least one, preferably two, of the 3 sections** (Skill, Physical, Volunteering) **before Easter 2021**.
- Attend all relevant expedition section training on Tuesdays after school starting **April 2021** (3:45 – 4:45 pm). **"Safety is paramount when it comes to the expedition. Therefore, it is essential that participants undertake expedition skills training."** (The Handbook for DofE Leaders)
- Attend a weekend training expedition (including overnight) on **12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> OR 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> June 2021**.
- Complete an assessed expedition (including overnight) this is provisionally scheduled for **11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> September or 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> September 2021**.
- Monitor, record and keep updated (in their electronic eDofE accounts) evidence of their volunteering, physical and skill activities, in line with Award regulations.

If your child wishes to take part in the Award programme, then please pay the enrolment fee and give parental permission **before 2:30 pm Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October**. On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 we will purchase participant places direct from DofE. Once we have placed this order, **no further places will be purchased**. This gives us time to set up participants' eDofE accounts ready for activation as stated above.

*Our preferred method of payment is **ParentPay** as we are trying to minimise cash and cheque transactions due to Covid 19. Please logon to [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com) using your username and password to make your payment. If you are unable to use ParentPay, please contact Mrs Moyle in the Finance Office ([moylel@uffculmeschool.net](mailto:moylel@uffculmeschool.net)).*

Further information about the Award is available on the DofE website [www.dofe.org](http://www.dofe.org).

If you have any further questions, please contact us at [dofe@uffculmeschool.net](mailto:dofe@uffculmeschool.net).

 K. Purrington

**Mr D Harbour and Mrs K Purrington**

**DofE Coordinators**

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