



September 2016

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Headteacher

Robert Elsey

Dear Parents/Carers

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S GOLD AWARD

Thank you for registering your interest in the Gold Walking D of E award at Edgbarrow. I am delighted to tell you that your son/daughter has secured a place as we have been able to accommodate all applications. Due to a record number of applicants the cost of the expedition package has also fallen. Please see below for details.

Section evidence gathering. I have had numerous queries about this already, so I thought I would clarify in this letter. You may backdate the start of any section to the 1st of September so you can be gathering evidence for activities that are ongoing or already underway even before you have received your welcome pack.

School sessions Participants will need to attend several compulsory after-school sessions (usually Monday 3:30 to 5pm) throughout the year as well as some lunchtime drop in sessions. Participants will be given plenty of notice about when these sessions will be held. The school D of E page will also have a calendar with all important dates.

Package Summary

Gold Walking Expedition

Activity Provider: Expedition Wales

Event	Depart	Return
Training Weekend. Crowthorne	9am 25 th March	5pm on 26 th March
Practice Expedition Black Mountains	1230 pm Wednesday 26 th April	9pm Sunday 30 th April
Assessed Expedition Brecon Beacons	11:30am Wednesday 5 th July	9pm Sunday 9 th July

Travel to and from training and expedition locations is included in the package price. Please note that there was a typo on the original letter sent out 2 weeks ago and the departure dates for expeditions is a day earlier than originally stated.

Deposit (Due 10th October): £190

Full balance (Due 10th March): £525

Payment Process and Paperwork to return

The charges stated above will cover the costs of, among other things, DofE Award Membership, Training, Instructors, Assessors, Group Equipment, Camp site fees and transport. We require the deposit and paperwork by Monday 10th October. This will confirm your commitment and place on the D of E scheme. For those that chose the optional personal kit, we require an additional £10 payment

We would ask you to use the online payment system to pay this if possible. If you have already created an online account, please use this as normal. If you have not already created an account, you should have received a letter with your pupil link code and guidance on creating the account. If you need a copy of this, please email finance@edgbarrowschool.co.uk for a copy. If you do not use online banking, or prefer to pay by cheque, please would you make the cheque payable to Edgbarrow School and write your child's name and 'Gold D of E' on the back.

Please fill out the following forms and return to school with payment by **Monday 10th October**.

- a) Confirmation of payment (form at end of this letter)
- b) Medical and Consent Form
- c) D of E Enrolment form
- d) Expedition Wales consent form

What happens next?

We will be holding a parents and participants' information evening on Tuesday 11th October from 6:30pm – 7:15pm in the Sixth Form building.

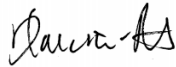
Firstly, there will be an informative presentation by the expedition company about the challenges and training that lie ahead. This will be followed by a presentation by a member of Edgbarrow staff on the physical, skill and volunteering sections – what activities you could do and how best to gather evidence. Staff will then be available to answer any questions. Expedition Information packs that will help you support your son/daughter to prepare for the expeditions will be sent out by email in November.

After the information evening, participants will be enrolled onto the electronic DofE system known as eDofE and will receive an email to inform them of how they can login, unless they have previously undertaken Bronze in which case they will use their existing login. We would encourage participants to complete the previous level first if it is unfinished. Welcome packs will be distributed in mid-November when eDofE introduction and setup sessions will be arranged at school. However, you don't have to wait until then to log in, setup and explore.

For future reference, all correspondence and application forms are also available on the school D of E webpage which is accessible from the Students tab of the main page. The DofE.org website is also a useful resource for resolving commonly asked questions.

I look forward to seeing many of you and many of our new participants at the information evening.

Kind Regards



Duncan Laurie-Pile

Email: DLP@edgbarrowschool.co.uk

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Reply Slip: DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Please return to Mr Laurie-Pile by Monday 10th October

I confirm that my son/daughter _____ (participant's name) would like to undertake

Gold Walking Duke of Edinburgh Award and acknowledge the financial commitment of £525 with initial deposit of £190 that has been paid through the school online payment system or by cash or cheque made out to 'Gold DofE'

Payment made online*

*Please **do not** return this reply slip until payment has been made online

Cash

Cheque

Use credit previously refunded online

I confirm that I have paid an additional £10 for personal kit hire (if requested)

I confirm that my son/daughter is able to attend all expedition and training weekend dates.

I enclose the completed and signed D of E enrolment form (also signed by participant)

I enclose the completed Edgbarrow Medical and Parental Consent Form

I enclose the signed Consent form for Expedition Wales

Signed : _____ (Parent/Carer)

Name : _____ (Please print) Date: _____