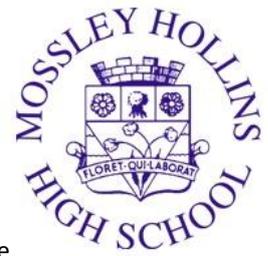




Dear Parents/ Carers,



Firstly let me thank you for your support for your son/daughter in applying to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme at Mossley Hollins High School. As you know, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award is an enjoyable, challenging and rewarding personal development programme for young people.

*Floret Qui Laborat*

In the past the Duke of Edinburgh award has been very successful. This year, we are anticipating running in a slightly different format to previous years. Our plan for Bronze award students is as follows:

- Bronze participants will be registered with the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme and provided an eDofE account to track their progress. For this, we request an initial registration fee of **£40**. This will enable students to sign-up, begin their journey, and receive support from staff in school. This should be made through the school gateway app. as soon as possible to enable us to create an account for your son/daughter. The deadline for this payment is **Thursday 3rd February 2022**.
- Following successful application and after showing dedication of all 3 sections completed prior to the expedition (Physical, skill and volunteering), students will be invited to participate in the expedition. This will be at a cost of **£45**. Further permissions, medical information will also be required at this time. The deadline for this payment is Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

You are welcome to pay the full amount of **£85** ahead of the deadlines, if this is more suitable. All payments are to be made via our SchoolGateway app.

**Schoolgateway**  If you have a smartphone, please download School Gateway from your app store (Android and iPhone). The app allows you to make payments and you can send app messages to the school for **FREE**.

Due to the pandemic Duke of Edinburgh have made some changes to the final section of the award. This means there is no longer a requirement for a practice expedition. However, there will be practice sessions in school throughout the Summer Term for tent building, cooking and map reading.

#### **Expected Expedition: September 2022**

The Bronze expeditions are 1 day/1 night. Set locations, times and travel arrangements for the cohort are yet to be decided. It is anticipated that you will be required to either collect, or drop-off, your son/daughter at the set location.

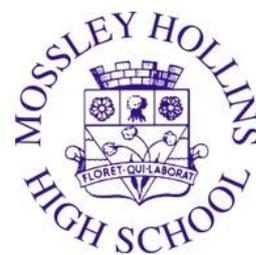
There will be training sessions ahead of the expedition to prepare for these as the students have to plan and carry out their walk relying on maps and compasses, plan and cook their own food and set up camp successfully. They will be assessed by an external assessor on their final expedition. Please be aware that the school provides tents and cooking stoves, but the students must provide everything else.

**Essential equipment includes:** Approximately 55-65 litre rucksack, walking boots, sleeping bag, foam mat and suitable outdoor clothes including waterproof coat and trousers. However please do not break the bank on these items – most outdoor stores will have sales on due to it being off-season. There will be a further information evening held ahead of our first expedition to provide full details on the event itself and requirements of pupils ahead of the practice and final expedition.

It is essential during the award that communication remains strong between the pupils, school and home, so please keep an eye out for any reports in the newflash. Please be aware that letters may be sent home during the award. Meetings for the participants will be held at lunchtimes on Tuesdays and ensure that all relevant training is completed. The students will be reminded of these meetings and it is essential that your child attends. As we approach the expeditions later in the year, there may be extra meetings required.

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*Floret Qui Laborat*

It there are any questions now, or at any time throughout the year please don't hesitate to contact myself (Mr Miller) or Mr Smith. The Duke of Edinburgh website is also a very useful source of information ([www.dofe.org](http://www.dofe.org)). Congratulations once again and we hope that your child finds the Duke of Edinburgh's Award equally rewarding and challenging!

Yours faithfully

*J. Miller*

Duke of Edinburgh Co-Ordinator

*C. Smith*

Duke of Edinburgh Assistant Co-Ordinator

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