

February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I'm delighted that your child has been selected for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE).

Doing DofE is a brilliant way for your young person to discover just how much they are capable of. It gives young people the chance to make new friends, follow their passions, learn new skills and make a difference in our community. Gaining a DofE Award is a great way to impress employers too.

It's also non-competitive and a powerful way for every young person to build belief in themselves, whatever their background, interests, and abilities.

## How it works

There are three levels of DofE Award – Bronze, Silver and Gold. To achieve the awards, your child will need to complete four sections – Volunteering, Physical, Skills and the Expedition.

Students can choose what they would like to do for the first three sections, and we will provide all the guidance and support they need. The Expedition involves spending two days and one night in the countryside, and again we'll make sure that our young people are fully prepared for it.

**Phase 1** of the award is all about getting set up on E-DOFE which is the Duke of Edinburgh app, here students will upload their evidence of the skills they have picked for me to approve and check. Each skill requires an assessor's report, THIS CANNOT BE A PARENT and assessors must be over the age of 18. Please contact me if you are unsure about assessor's report as there are ways round them to get them approved should you only have family to assess the skill your young person has chosen.

## Next steps

At present, I will be holding DofE sessions as we prepare for summer expeditions after school on (Monday 14:55 -15:45) here at the Academy.

We have planned an information event for parents and students on **Monday 26th February 2024, 16:00pm – 16:45pm,** if you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to contact me.

## Sean.Sherwood@Stockport-Academy.org

The DofE website - www.dofe.org - has a lot of useful information too.

Thank you for your support.

S. Sherwood

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