



July 2026

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme Launch Evening

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am very excited to be able to inform you of the launch date for our Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme (DofE). The aim of the Launch Event is to inform both you as parents and students of the requirements and commitment involved in taking up the DofE award and also highlight the huge number of benefits completing the award can bring. The DofE award has been voted by a huge number of organisations and businesses as the most valued activity undertaken by young people. It provides young people with a unique opportunity to develop a huge range of invaluable skills unmatched by many other qualifications.

To attain the award students are expected to complete three sections;

- Volunteering,
- Skills,
- Physical

For a minimum of 1 hour a week for 3 to 6 months (longer for direct candidates), as well as completing an assessed expedition. Students can find the completion of the sections listed above challenging, so it is important they understand the commitment that they are undertaking before applying. The challenge of completing the award, and the independence and organisation students have to show is a huge reason why the award is valued by many organisations and businesses across the UK and the wider world.

In order to ensure that both you and your child are completely informed, you are invited to attend a launch evening at the school, along with your child, on **Tuesday 15th September, at 5pm, in the SDDC Main Hall**. During the meeting, we will outline the application process, the commitment required from students and provide more details about the award itself. The presentation should take no longer than 40 minutes and it is essential that if your child would like to complete their DofE award that they attend the meeting. Further details can be found on the DofE website www.dofe.org, although all the relevant information will be provided at the launch event.

We ask that you complete the attached google form: <https://forms.gle/JrS1EeCp6rGUqwfYA>

Yours Sincerely,

The DofE Team