



Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award

With the success of **Giles Adventure**, as highlighted by Ofsted, our Character Education programme now continues with a range of activities as part of the curriculum which can count towards the **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award**. It will also benefit students in the future when they are applying for college, university or employment. It has been recognised that young people who have completed **DofE** are at a distinct advantage over their peers who have not participated. Further information about the Award can be found on their website www.dofe.org

There are four sections to complete for the Bronze Award and we generally find that most students are already participating in many activities which count towards it, requiring little extra effort other than to record their achievements. There are also activities at school in which students already participate, that can also qualify for sections of the award.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Charity is responsible for ensuring that its programme offers young people the chance to experience new activities, grow in confidence and develop useful skills for life. It has continually evolved the way the programmes are delivered, enabling it to remain relevant, rewarding and challenging for the benefit of young people.

Giles Academy, as a **Directly Licenced Centre**, is pleased to be part of a UK-wide trial for participants completing their Bronze programme. This applies to the Expedition section to make it a positive and attractive experience and encourages them to undertake further adventures by completing their Silver and Gold DofE programme.

With students having been thoroughly trained, the requirement now is that they only need to complete the Qualifying (assessed) Expedition, but not have to undertake a Practice Expedition beforehand.

Preliminary expedition training

This will take place in school on **Thursday 20 September**. It will involve one intensive day, learning about campcraft, cooking skills, First Aid and map reading which are essential preparation for a successful expedition. Students should still be in school uniform, starting and finishing at normal school times.

Qualifying (Assessed) Expedition

Following successful completion of the training, the **Qualifying Expedition** will be in the Lincolnshire Wolds over 2 days, camping overnight in Spilsby.

Tutor Group	Date
10SG	27-28 September
10AB	1-2 October
10TS	4-5 October
10NU	15-16 October
10KW	18-19 October
10JCAM	29-30 October
10AC	1-2 Nov

Students should arrive at school on the first day at the normal time and assemble in the mobiles, where equipment can be checked and borrowed if necessary. By turning up to the school in the outdoor clothing, we can immediately see that everyone has the correct kit and will save a great deal of time on arrival, allowing us to start our walk quickly.

On the final day they should be available for collection after **4.00pm** from the rear playground. In the event of us returning to school earlier, students may travel home on the buses but will not be permitted to leave the school site before 3.40pm.

Food

Students will need to provide their own food (Day 1 Lunch, Day 1 Evening meal, Day 2 Breakfast & Day 2 Lunch). As part of their training, students will have had it explained and demonstrated to them about the appropriate types of food that they should take for the meals. They do need to remember that they will need to carry their food, therefore will need to consider the weight of it and also remember that it is also important to drink plenty.

Kit List

There is a comprehensive equipment list on the school website. We do have a range of waterproof clothing, boots, rucksacks and sleeping bags to lend. If borrowing a rucksack, kit can be brought into school in any bag and then repacked. The school will provide tents, rollmats and cooking equipment.

We are especially pleased to subsidise this opportunity and offer it to pupils at an unbeatable **£15**.

So that we have up to date, correct contact details and medical information, could you please complete the **Online Medical Form**, and pay the £15 contribution using “**Parentpay**” as soon as possible, but no later than **17 September**.

More detailed information, including the medical form and the kit list, are available on our website <http://www.gilesacademy.co.uk/Bronze-DofE>

Yours faithfully

Ian Widdows

Headteacher